

Calendar No. 200

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION**S. 1107****[Report No. 109–131]**

To reauthorize the Head Start Act, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 23, 2005

Mr. ENZI (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mr. DODD) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

AUGUST 31, 2005

Reported under authority of the order of the Senate of July 29, 2005, by Mr. ENZI, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

A BILL

To reauthorize the Head Start Act, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*

2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Head Start Improve-

5 ments for School Readiness Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE.**

2 Section 636 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831)
 3 is amended by inserting “educational instruction in
 4 prereading skills, premathematics skills, and language and
 5 through” after “low-income children through”.

6 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

7 Section 637 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9832)
 8 is amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (2), by inserting “(including a
 10 community-based organization)” after “nonprofit”;

11 (2) in paragraph (3)(C), by inserting “, includ-
 12 ing financial literacy,” after “Parent literacy”;

13 (3) in paragraph (17), by striking “Mariana Is-
 14 lands,” and all that follows and inserting “Mariana
 15 Islands.”; and

16 (4) by adding at the end the following:

17 “(18) The term ‘homeless child’ means a child
 18 described in section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento
 19 Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a(2)).

20 “(19) The term ‘limited English proficient’,
 21 used with respect to a child, means a child—

22 “(A) who is enrolled or preparing to enroll
 23 in a Head Start program, Early Head Start
 24 program, or other early care and education pro-
 25 gram;

1 “(B)(i) who was not born in the United
2 States or whose native language is a language
3 other than English;

4 “(ii)(I) who is a Native American, Alaska
5 Native, or a native resident of a United States
6 territory; and

7 “(II) who comes from an environment
8 where a language other than English has had
9 a significant impact on the child’s level of
10 English language proficiency; or

11 “(iii) who is migratory, whose native lan-
12 guage is a language other than English, and
13 who comes from an environment where a lan-
14 guage other than English is dominant; and

15 “(C) whose difficulty in speaking or under-
16 standing the English language may be sufficient
17 to deny such child—

18 “(i) the ability to successfully achieve
19 in a classroom in which the language of in-
20 struction is English; or

21 “(ii) the opportunity to participate
22 fully in society.

23 “(20) The term ‘deficiency’ means—

1 “(A) a systemic or substantial failure of an
2 agency in an area of performance that the Sec-
3 retary determines involves—

4 “(i) a threat to the health, safety, or
5 civil rights of children or staff;

6 “(ii) a denial to parents of the exer-
7 cise of their full roles and responsibilities
8 related to program operations;

9 “(iii) a failure to comply with stand-
10 ards related to early childhood development
11 and health services, family and community
12 partnerships, or program design and man-
13 agement;

14 “(iv) the misuse of funds under this
15 subchapter;

16 “(v) loss of legal status or financial
17 viability, loss of permits, debarment from
18 receiving Federal grants or contracts, or
19 the improper use of Federal funds; or

20 “(vi) failure to meet any other Fed-
21 eral or State requirement that the agency
22 has shown an unwillingness or inability to
23 correct, after notice from the Secretary,
24 within the period specified;

1 “(B) systemic failure of the board of direc-
 2 tors of an agency to fully exercise its legal and
 3 fiduciary responsibilities;

4 “(C) substantial failure of an agency to
 5 meet the administrative requirements of section
 6 644(b);

7 “(D) failure of an agency to demonstrate
 8 that the agency attempted to meet the coordi-
 9 nation and collaboration requirements with enti-
 10 ties described in section 640(a)(5)(D)(iii)(I); or

11 “(E) having an unresolved area of non-
 12 compliance.

13 “(21) The term ‘unresolved area of noncompli-
 14 ance’ means failure to correct a noncompliance item
 15 within 120 days, or within such additional time (if
 16 any) authorized by the Secretary, after receiving
 17 from the Secretary notice of such noncompliance
 18 item, pursuant to section 641A(d).”.

19 **SEC. 4. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR HEAD START PRO-**
 20 **GRAMS.**

21 Section 638 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9833)
 22 is amended by inserting “for a period of 5 years” after
 23 “provide financial assistance to such agency”.

1 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 Section 639 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9834)
3 is amended to read as follows:

4 **“SEC. 639. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

5 **“(a) IN GENERAL.**—There are authorized to be ap-
6 propriated for carrying out the provisions of this sub-
7 chapter \$7,215,000,000 for fiscal year 2006,
8 \$7,515,000,000 for fiscal year 2007, \$7,815,000,000 for
9 fiscal year 2008, and such sums as may be necessary for
10 each of fiscal years 2009 and 2010.

11 **“(b) SPECIFIC PROGRAMS.**—From the amount ap-
12 propriated under subsection (a), the Secretary shall make
13 available to carry out research, demonstration, and evalua-
14 tion activities, including longitudinal studies under section
15 649, not more than \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2006, and
16 such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years
17 2007 through 2010, of which not more than \$7,000,000
18 for each of fiscal years 2006 through 2010 shall be avail-
19 able to carry out impact studies under section 649(g).”.

20 **SEC. 6. ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS.**

21 **(a) ALLOTMENT.**—Section 640(a) of the Head Start
22 Act (42 U.S.C. 9835(a)) is amended—

23 (1) in paragraph (2)—

24 (A) by striking subparagraph (A) and in-
25 serting the following:

1 “(A) Indian Head Start programs, services for
2 children with disabilities, and migrant and seasonal
3 Head Start programs, except that—

4 “(i) subject to the availability of appropria-
5 tions, the Secretary shall reserve for each fiscal
6 year for use by Indian Head Start and migrant
7 and seasonal Head Start programs (referred to
8 in this subparagraph as ‘covered programs’), on
9 a nationwide basis, a sum that is the total of
10 not less than 4 percent of the amount appro-
11 priated under section 639 for that fiscal year
12 (for Indian Head Start programs), and not less
13 than 5 percent of that appropriated amount
14 (for migrant and seasonal Head Start pro-
15 grams), except that—

16 “(I) if reserving the specified percent-
17 ages for Indian Head Start programs and
18 migrant and seasonal Head Start pro-
19 grams would reduce the number of chil-
20 dren served by Head Start programs, rel-
21 ative to the number of children served on
22 the date of enactment of the Head Start
23 Improvements for School Readiness Act,
24 taking into consideration an appropriate
25 adjustment for inflation, the Secretary

1 shall reserve percentages that approach, as
2 closely as practicable, the specified percent-
3 ages and that do not cause such a reduc-
4 tion; and

5 “(H) notwithstanding any other provi-
6 sion of this subparagraph, the Secretary
7 shall reserve for each fiscal year for use by
8 Indian Head Start programs and by mi-
9 grant and seasonal Head Start programs,
10 on a nationwide basis, not less than the
11 amount that was obligated for use by In-
12 dian Head Start programs and by migrant
13 and seasonal Head Start programs for the
14 previous fiscal year;

15 “(ii) after ensuring that each grant recipi-
16 ent for a covered program has received an
17 amount sufficient to enable the grant recipient
18 to serve the same number of children in Head
19 Start programs as were served by such grant
20 recipient on the date of enactment of the Head
21 Start Improvements for School Readiness Act,
22 taking into consideration an appropriate adjust-
23 ment for inflation, and after allotting the funds
24 reserved under paragraph (3)(A) as specified in
25 paragraph (3)(D), the Secretary shall distribute

the remaining funds available under this subparagraph for covered programs, by—

“(I) distributing 65 percent of the remainder by giving priority to grant recipients in the States serving the smallest percentages of eligible children (as determined by the Secretary); and

“(II) distributing 35 percent of the remainder on a competitive basis;”;

(B) by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting the following:

“(C) training and technical assistance activities that are sufficient to meet the needs associated with program expansion and to foster program and management improvement activities as described in section 648, in an amount for each fiscal year that is equal to 2 percent of the amount appropriated under section 639 for such fiscal year, of which—

“(i) 50 percent shall be made available to Head Start agencies to use directly, or by establishing local or regional agreements with community experts, colleges and universities, or private consultants, for any of the following training and technical assistance activities, including—

1 “(I) activities that ensure that Head
2 Start programs meet or exceed the pro-
3 gram performance standards described in
4 section 641A(a)(1);

5 “(II) activities that ensure that Head
6 Start programs have adequate numbers of
7 trained, qualified staff who have skills in
8 working with children and families, includ-
9 ing children and families who are limited
10 English proficient and children with dis-
11 abilities;

12 “(III) activities to pay expenses, in-
13 cluding direct training for expert consult-
14 ants working with any staff, to improve the
15 management and implementation of Head
16 Start services and systems;

17 “(IV) activities that help ensure that
18 Head Start programs have qualified staff
19 who can promote language skills and lit-
20 eracy growth of children and who can pro-
21 vide children with a variety of skills that
22 have been identified as predictive of later
23 reading achievement, school success, and
24 other educational skills described in section
25 641A;

1 “(V) activities to improve staff quali-
2 fications and to assist with the implemen-
3 tation of career development programs and
4 to encourage the staff to continually im-
5 prove their skills and expertise, including
6 developing partnerships with programs
7 that recruit, train, place, and support col-
8 lege students in Head Start centers to de-
9 liver an innovative early learning program
10 to preschool children;

11 “(VI) activities that help local pro-
12 grams ensure that the arrangement, condi-
13 tion, and implementation of the learning
14 environments in Head Start programs are
15 conducive to providing effective program
16 services to children and families;

17 “(VII) activities to provide training
18 necessary to improve the qualifications of
19 Head Start staff and to support staff
20 training, child counseling, health services,
21 and other services necessary to address the
22 needs of children enrolled in Head Start
23 programs, including children from families
24 in crises, children who experience chronic
25 violence or homelessness, and children who

1 experience substance abuse in their fami-
2 lies, and children under 3 years of age,
3 where applicable;

4 “(VIII) activities to provide classes or
5 in-service-type programs to improve or en-
6 hance parenting skills, job skills, adult and
7 family literacy, including financial literacy,
8 or training to become a classroom aide or
9 bus driver in a Head Start program;

10 “(IX) additional activities deemed ap-
11 propriate to the improvement of Head
12 Start agencies’ programs, as determined by
13 the agencies’ technical assistance and
14 training plans; or

15 “(X) any other activities regarding
16 the use of funds as determined by the Sec-
17 retary;

18 “(ii) 50 percent shall be made available to
19 the Secretary to support a regional or State
20 system of early childhood education training
21 and technical assistance, and to assist local pro-
22 grams (including Indian Head Start programs
23 and migrant and seasonal Head Start pro-
24 grams) in meeting the standards described in
25 section 641A(a)(1); and

1 “(iii) not less than \$2,000,000 of the
2 amount in clause (ii) appropriated for such fis-
3 cal year shall be made available to carry out ac-
4 tivities described in section 648(d)(4);”;

5 (C) in subparagraph (D), by striking
6 “agencies;” and inserting “agencies);” and

7 (D) by adding at the end of the flush mat-
8 ter at the end the following: “The Secretary
9 shall require each Head Start agency to report
10 at the end of each budget year on how funds
11 provided to carry out subparagraph (C)(i) were
12 used.”;

13 (2) in paragraph (3)—

14 (A) in subparagraph (A)(i)(I)—

15 (i) by striking “60 percent of such ex-
16 cess amount for fiscal year 1999” and all
17 that follows through “2002, and”; and

18 (ii) by inserting before the semicolon
19 the following: “, 30 percent of such excess
20 amount for fiscal year 2006, and 40 per-
21 cent of such excess amount for each of fis-
22 cal years 2007 through 2010”;

23 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

24 (i) in clause (i), by striking “perform-
25 ance standards” and all that follows and

1 inserting “standards and measures pursu-
2 ant to section 641A.”;

3 (ii) by striking clause (ii) and insert-
4 ing the following:

5 “(ii) Ensuring that such programs have ade-
6 quate numbers of qualified staff, and that such staff
7 is furnished adequate training, including training to
8 promote the development of language skills,
9 premathematics skills, and prereading in young chil-
10 dren and in working with limited English proficient
11 children, children in foster care, children referred by
12 child welfare services, and children with disabilities,
13 when appropriate.”;

14 (iii) by striking clause (iii) and insert-
15 ing the following:

16 “(iii) Developing and financing the salary scales
17 and benefits standards under section 644(a) and
18 section 653, in order to ensure that salary levels and
19 benefits are adequate to attract and retain qualified
20 staff for such programs.”;

21 (iv) by striking clause (iv) and insert-
22 ing the following:

23 “(iv) Using salary increases to—

“(I) assist with the implementation of quality programs and improve staff qualifications;

“(II) ensure that staff can promote the language skills and literacy growth of children and can provide children with a variety of skills that have been identified, through scientifically based early reading research, as predictive of later reading achievement, as well as additional skills identified in section 641A(a)(1)(B)(ii); and

“(III) encourage the staff to continually improve their skills and expertise by informing the staff of the availability of Federal and State incentive and loan forgiveness programs for professional development.”;

(v) in clause (v), by inserting “, including collaborations to increase program participation by underserved populations of eligible children” before the period; and

(vi) by striking clauses (vii) and (viii) and inserting the following:

“(vii) Providing assistance to complete postsecondary coursework including scholarships or other financial incentives, such as differential and merit

1 pay, to enable Head Start teachers to improve com-
 2 petencies and the resulting child outcomes.

3 “(viii) Promoting the regular attendance and
 4 stability of all Head Start children with particular
 5 attention to highly mobile children, including chil-
 6 dren from migrant and seasonal farmworking fami-
 7 lies (where appropriate), homeless children, and chil-
 8 dren in foster care.

9 “(ix) Making such other improvements in the
 10 quality of such programs as the Secretary may des-
 11 ignate.”; and

12 (C) in subparagraph (C)—

13 (i) in clause (i)(I), by striking the last
 14 sentence and inserting “Salary increases,
 15 in excess of cost-of-living allowances, pro-
 16 vided with such funds shall be subject to
 17 the specific standards governing salaries
 18 and salary increases established pursuant
 19 to section 644(a).”;

20 (ii) in clause (ii)—

21 (I) in the matter preceding sub-
 22 clause (I), by striking “education per-
 23 formance” and inserting “additional
 24 educational”;

1 (II) in subclause (I), by inserting
2 “~~,~~ prereading,” after “language”;

3 (III) by striking subclause (II)
4 and inserting the following:

5 “(II) to help limited English proficient
6 children attain the knowledge, skills, and devel-
7 opment specified in section 641A(a)(1)(B)(ii)
8 and to promote the acquisition of the English
9 language by such children and families;” and

10 (IV) by striking subclause (IV)
11 and inserting the following:

12 “(IV) to provide education and training
13 necessary to improve the qualifications of Head
14 Start staff, particularly assistance to enable
15 more instructors to be fully competent and to
16 meet the degree requirements under section
17 648A(a)(2)(A), and to support staff training,
18 child counseling, and other services necessary to
19 address the challenges of children participating
20 in Head Start programs, including children
21 from immigrant, refugee, and asylee families;
22 children from families in crisis, homeless chil-
23 dren, children in foster care, children referred
24 to Head Start programs by child welfare agen-

eies, and children who are exposed to chronic violence or substance abuse.”;

(iii) in clause (iii), by inserting “, educational staff who have the qualifications described in section 648A(a),” after “ratio”;

(iv) in clause (v), by striking “programs, including” and all that follows and inserting “programs.”;

(v) by redesignating clause (vi) as clause (x); and

(vi) by inserting after clause (v) the following:

“(vi) To conduct outreach to homeless families in an effort to increase the program participation of eligible homeless children.

“(vii) To conduct outreach to migrant and seasonal farmworking families and families with limited English proficient children.

“(viii) To partner with institutions of higher education and nonprofit organizations, including community-based organizations, that recruit, train, place, and support college students to serve as mentors and reading coaches to preschool children in Head Start programs.

1 “(ix) To upgrade the qualifications and skills of
 2 educational personnel to meet the professional
 3 standards described in section 648A(a)(1), including
 4 certification and licensure as bilingual education
 5 teachers and for other educational personnel who
 6 serve limited English proficient students.”;

7 ~~(3)~~ in paragraph (4)—

8 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking
 9 “1998” and inserting “2005”; and

10 (B) by striking subparagraph (B) and in-
 11 serting the following:

12 “(B) any amount available after all allotments
 13 are made under subparagraph (A) for such fiscal
 14 year shall be distributed as follows:

15 “(i) Each State shall receive an amount
 16 sufficient to serve the same number of children
 17 in Head Start programs in each State as were
 18 served on the date of enactment of the Head
 19 Start Improvements for School Readiness Act,
 20 taking into consideration an appropriate adjust-
 21 ment for inflation.

22 “(ii) After ensuring that each State has re-
 23 ceived the amount described in clause (i) and
 24 after allotting the funds reserved under para-
 25 graph ~~(3)~~(A) as specified in paragraph ~~(3)~~(D);

1 the Secretary shall distribute the remaining bal-
 2 ance, by—

3 “(I) distributing 65 percent of the
 4 balance by giving priority to States serving
 5 the smallest percentages of eligible children
 6 (as determined by the Secretary); and

7 “(II) distributing 35 percent of the
 8 balance on a competitive basis.”;

9 (4) in paragraph (5)—

10 (A) by redesignating subparagraphs (E)
 11 and (F) as subparagraphs (F) and (G), respec-
 12 tively; and

13 (B) by striking subparagraphs (B), (C),
 14 and (D) and inserting the following:

15 “(B)(i) From the reserved sums, the Secretary shall
 16 award a collaboration grant to each State to facilitate col-
 17 laboration between Head Start agencies and entities (in-
 18 cluding the State) that carry out other activities designed
 19 to benefit low-income families and children from birth to
 20 school entry.

21 “(ii) Grants described in clause (i) shall be used to—

22 “(I) encourage Head Start agencies to collabo-
 23 rate with entities involved in State and local plan-
 24 ning processes to better meet the needs of low-in-

1 come families and children from birth to school
2 entry;

3 “(H) encourage Head Start agencies to coordi-
4 nate activities with the State agency responsible for
5 administering the State program carried out under
6 the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of
7 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858 et seq.) and entities providing
8 resources and referral services in the State to make
9 full-working-day and full calendar year services
10 available to children;

11 “(III) promote alignment of Head Start serv-
12 ices with State early learning and school readiness
13 goals and standards, including the Head Start child
14 outcome framework;

15 “(IV) promote better linkages between Head
16 Start agencies and other child and family agencies,
17 including agencies that provide health, mental
18 health, or family services, or other child or family
19 supportive services; and

20 “(V) carry out the activities of the State Direc-
21 tor of Head Start Collaboration authorized in sub-
22 paragraph (D).

23 “(C) In order to improve coordination and delivery
24 of early education services to children in the State, a State
25 that receives a grant under subparagraph (B) shall—

1 “(i) appoint an individual to serve as the State
2 Director of Head Start Collaboration;

3 “(ii) ensure that the State Director of Head
4 Start Collaboration holds a position with sufficient
5 authority and access to ensure that the collaboration
6 described in subparagraph (B) is effective and in-
7 volves a range of State agencies; and

8 “(iii) involve the State Head Start Association
9 in the selection of the Director and involve the Asso-
10 ciation in determinations relating to the ongoing di-
11 rection of the collaboration office.

12 “(D) The State Director of Head Start Collaboration,
13 after consultation with the State Advisory Council de-
14 scribed in subparagraph (E), shall—

15 “(i) not later than 1 year after the date of en-
16 actment of the Head Start Improvements for School
17 Readiness Act, conduct an assessment that—

18 “(I) addresses the needs of Head Start
19 agencies in the State with respect to collabo-
20 rating, coordinating services, and implementing
21 State early learning and school readiness goals
22 and standards to better serve children enrolled
23 in Head Start programs in the State;

24 “(II) shall be updated on an annual basis;
25 and

1 “(III) shall be made available to the gen-
2 eral public within the State;

3 “(ii) assess the availability of high quality pre-
4 kindergarten services for low-income children in the
5 State;

6 “(iii) develop a strategic plan that is based on
7 the assessment described in clause (i) that will—

8 “(I) enhance collaboration and coordina-
9 tion of Head Start services with other entities
10 providing early childhood programs and services
11 (such as child care and services offered by mu-
12 seums); health care; mental health care; wel-
13 fare; child protective services; education and
14 community service activities; family literacy
15 services; reading readiness programs (including
16 such programs offered by public and school li-
17 braries); services relating to children with dis-
18 abilities; other early childhood programs and
19 services for limited English proficient children
20 and homeless children; and services provided for
21 children in foster care and children referred to
22 Head Start programs by child welfare agencies;
23 including agencies and State officials respon-
24 sible for such services;

1 “(II) assist Head Start agencies to develop
2 a plan for the provision of full-working-day, full
3 calendar year services for children enrolled in
4 Head Start programs who need such care;

5 “(III) assist Head Start agencies to align
6 services with State early learning and school
7 readiness goals and standards and to facilitate
8 collaborative efforts to develop local school
9 readiness standards; and

10 “(IV) enable agencies in the State to bet-
11 ter coordinate professional development oppor-
12 tunities for Head Start staff, such as by—

13 “(aa) assisting 2- and 4-year public
14 and private institutions of higher education
15 to develop articulation agreements;

16 “(bb) awarding grants to institutions
17 of higher education to develop model early
18 childhood education programs, including
19 practica or internships for students to
20 spend time in a Head Start or prekindergarten
21 program;

22 “(cc) working with local Head Start
23 agencies to meet the degree requirements
24 described in section 648A(a)(2)(A), includ-
25 ing providing distance learning opportuni-

1 ties for Head Start staff, where needed to
 2 make higher education more accessible to
 3 Head Start staff; and

4 “(dd) enabling the State Head Start
 5 agencies to better coordinate outreach to
 6 eligible families;

7 “(iv) promote partnerships between Head Start
 8 agencies, State governments, and the private sector
 9 to help ensure that preschool children from low-in-
 10 come families are receiving comprehensive services to
 11 prepare the children to enter school ready to learn;

12 “(v) consult with the chief State school officer;
 13 local educational agencies, and providers of early
 14 childhood education and care to conduct unified
 15 planning regarding early care and education services
 16 at both the State and local levels, including under-
 17 taking collaborative efforts to develop and make im-
 18 provements in school readiness standards;

19 “(vi) promote partnerships (such as the part-
 20 nerships involved with the Free to Grow initiative)
 21 between Head Start agencies, schools, law enforce-
 22 ment, and substance abuse and mental health treat-
 23 ment agencies to strengthen family and community
 24 environments and to reduce the impact on child de-
 25 velopment of substance abuse, child abuse, domestic

1 violence, and other high risk behaviors that com-
 2 promise healthy development;

3 “(vii) promote partnerships between Head Start
 4 agencies and other organizations in order to enhance
 5 the Head Start curriculum, including partnerships
 6 to promote inclusion of more books in Head Start
 7 classrooms and partnerships to promote coordination
 8 of activities with the Ready-to-Learn Television pro-
 9 gram carried out under subpart 3 of part D of title
 10 H of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act
 11 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6775 et seq.); and

12 “(viii) identify other resources and organiza-
 13 tions (both public and private) for the provision of
 14 in-kind services to Head Start agencies in the State.

15 “(E)(i) The Governor of the State shall designate or
 16 establish a council to serve as the State advisory council
 17 on collaboration on early care and education activities for
 18 children from birth to school entry (in this subchapter re-
 19 ferred to as the ‘State Advisory Council’).

20 “(ii) The Governor may designate an existing entity
 21 to serve as the State Advisory Council, if the entity in-
 22 cludes representatives described in subclauses (I) through
 23 (XXIV) of clause (iii).

24 “(iii) Members of the State Advisory Council shall in-
 25 clude, to the maximum extent possible—

1 “(I) the State Director of Head Start Collabo-
2 ration;

3 “(II) a representative of the appropriate re-
4 gional office of the Administration for Children and
5 Families;

6 “(III) a representative of the State educational
7 agency and local educational agencies;

8 “(IV) a representative of institutions of higher
9 education;

10 “(V) a representative (or representatives) of the
11 State agency (or agencies) responsible for health or
12 mental health care;

13 “(VI) a representative of the State agency re-
14 sponsible for teacher professional standards, certifi-
15 cation, and licensing, including prekindergarten
16 teacher professional standards, certification stand-
17 ards, certification, and licensing, where applicable;

18 “(VII) a representative of the State agency re-
19 sponsible for child care;

20 “(VIII) early childhood education professionals,
21 including professionals with expertise in second lan-
22 guage acquisition and instructional strategies in
23 teaching limited English proficient children;

24 “(IX) kindergarten teachers and teachers in
25 grades 1 through 3;

1 “(X) health care professionals;

2 “(XI) child development specialists, including
3 specialists in prenatal, infant, and toddler develop-
4 ment;

5 “(XII) a representative of the State agency re-
6 sponsible for assisting children with developmental
7 disabilities;

8 “(XIII) a representative of the State agency re-
9 sponsible for programs under part C of the Individ-
10 uals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C.
11 1431 et seq.);

12 “(XIV) a representative of the State inter-
13 agency coordinating councils established under sec-
14 tion 641 of the Individuals with Disabilities Edu-
15 cation Act (20 U.S.C. 1441);

16 “(XV) a representative of the State Head Start
17 Association (where appropriate), and other rep-
18 resentatives of Head Start programs in the State;

19 “(XVI) a representative of the State network of
20 child care resource and referral agencies;

21 “(XVII) a representative of community-based
22 organizations;

23 “(XVIII) a representative of State and local
24 providers of early childhood education and child
25 care;

1 ~~“(XIX) a representative of migrant and sea-~~
 2 ~~sonal Head Start programs and Indian Head Start~~
 3 ~~programs (where appropriate);~~

4 ~~“(XX) parents;~~

5 ~~“(XXI) religious and business leaders;~~

6 ~~“(XXII) the head of the State library adminis-~~
 7 ~~trative agency;~~

8 ~~“(XXIII) representatives of State and local or-~~
 9 ~~ganizations and other entities providing professional~~
 10 ~~development to early care and education providers;~~
 11 ~~and~~

12 ~~“(XXIV) a representative of other entities de-~~
 13 ~~termined to be relevant by the chief executive officer~~
 14 ~~of the State.~~

15 ~~“(iv)(I) The State Advisory Council shall be respon-~~
 16 ~~sible for, in addition to responsibilities assigned to the~~
 17 ~~council by the chief executive officer of the State—~~

18 ~~“(aa) conducting a periodic statewide needs as-~~
 19 ~~essment concerning early care and education pro-~~
 20 ~~grams for children from birth to school entry;~~

21 ~~“(bb) identifying barriers to, and opportunities~~
 22 ~~for, collaboration and coordination between entities~~
 23 ~~carrying out Federal and State child development,~~
 24 ~~child care, and early childhood education programs;~~

1 “(cc) developing recommendations regarding
 2 means of establishing a unified data collection sys-
 3 tem for early care and education programs through-
 4 out the State;

5 “(dd) developing a statewide professional devel-
 6 opment and career ladder plan for early care and
 7 education in the State; and

8 “(ee) reviewing and approving the strategic
 9 plan, regarding collaborating and coordinating serv-
 10 ices to better serve children enrolled in Head Start
 11 programs, developed by the State Director of Head
 12 Start Collaboration under subparagraph (D)(iii).

13 “(H) The State Advisory Council shall hold public
 14 hearings and provide an opportunity for public comment
 15 on the needs assessment and recommendations described
 16 in subclause (I). The State Advisory Council shall submit
 17 a statewide strategic report containing the needs assess-
 18 ment and recommendations described in subclause (I) to
 19 the State Director of Head Start Collaboration and the
 20 chief executive officer of the State.

21 “(III) After submission of a statewide strategic re-
 22 port under subclause (H), the State Advisory Council shall
 23 meet periodically to review any implementation of the rec-
 24 ommendations in such report and any changes in State
 25 and local needs.”; and

1 ~~(5)~~ in paragraph ~~(6)~~—

2 ~~(A)~~ in subparagraph ~~(A)~~, by striking “7.5

3 percent” and all that follows and inserting “11

4 percent for fiscal year 2006, 13 percent for fis-

5 cal year 2007, 15 percent for fiscal year 2008,

6 17 percent for fiscal year 2009, and 18 percent

7 for fiscal year 2010, of the amount appro-

8 priated pursuant to section 639(a).”;

9 ~~(B)~~ by striking subparagraph ~~(B)~~;

10 ~~(C)~~ in subparagraph ~~(C)~~(i), by striking

11 “required to be”; and

12 ~~(D)~~ by redesignating subparagraph ~~(C)~~ as

13 subparagraph ~~(B)~~.

14 (b) SERVICE DELIVERY MODELS.—Section 640(f) of

15 the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9835(f)) is amended by

16 striking “needs.” and inserting “needs, including—

17 “(1) models that leverage the capacity and ca-

18 pabilities of the delivery system of early childhood

19 education and child care; and

20 “(2) procedures to provide for the conversion of

21 part-day programs to full-day programs or part-day

22 slots to full-day slots.”.

23 (c) ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—Section 640(g)(2) of the

24 Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9835(g)(2)) is amended—

1 (1) by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting
2 the following:

3 “(C) the extent to which the applicant has un-
4 dertaken communitywide strategic planning and
5 needs assessments involving other community orga-
6 nizations and Federal, State, and local public agen-
7 cies serving children and families (including organi-
8 zations and agencies providing family support serv-
9 ices and protective services to children and families
10 and organizations serving families in whose homes
11 English is not the language customarily spoken),
12 and individuals, organizations, and public entities
13 serving children with disabilities, children in foster
14 care, and homeless children including the local edu-
15 cational agency liaison designated under section
16 722(g)(1)(J)(ii) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless
17 Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii));”;

18 (2) in subparagraph (D), by striking “other
19 local” and inserting “the State and local”;

20 (3) in subparagraph (E), by inserting “would
21 like to participate but” after “community who”;

22 (4) in subparagraph (G), by inserting “leverage
23 the existing delivery systems of such services and”
24 after “manner that will”; and

1 (5) in subparagraph (H), by inserting “, includ-
 2 ing the local educational agency liaison designated
 3 under section 722(g)(1)(J)(ii) of the McKinney-
 4 Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.
 5 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii)),” after “community involved”.

6 (d) REGULATIONS.—Section 640(i) of the Head Start
 7 Act (42 U.S.C. 9835(i)) is amended by inserting “and re-
 8 quirements to ensure the appropriate supervision and
 9 background checks of individuals with whom the agencies
 10 contract to transport those children” before the period.

11 (e) MIGRANT AND SEASONAL HEAD START PRO-
 12 GRAMS.—Section 640(l) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
 13 9835(l)) is amended by striking paragraph (3) and insert-
 14 ing the following:

15 “(3) In carrying out this subchapter, the Secretary
 16 shall continue the administrative arrangement at the na-
 17 tional or regional level for meeting the needs of Indian
 18 children and children of migrant and seasonal farm-
 19 workers and shall ensure that appropriate funding is pro-
 20 vided to meet such needs, including training and technical
 21 assistance and the appointment of a national migrant and
 22 seasonal Head Start collaboration director and a national
 23 Indian Head Start collaboration director.

24 “(4)(A) For the purposes of paragraph (3), the Sec-
 25 retary shall conduct an annual consultation in each af-

1 fected Head Start region, with tribal governments oper-
 2 ating Head Start and Early Head Start programs.

3 “(B) The consultations shall be for the purpose of
 4 better meeting the needs of American Indian and Alaska
 5 Native children and families pertinent to subsections (a),
 6 (b), and (c) of section 641, taking into consideration fund-
 7 ing allocations, distribution formulas, and other issues af-
 8 fecting the delivery of Head Start services within tribal
 9 communities.

10 “(C) The Secretary shall publish a notification of the
 11 consultations in the Federal Register prior to conducting
 12 the consultations.

13 “(D) A detailed report of each consultation shall be
 14 prepared and made available, on a timely basis, to all trib-
 15 al governments receiving funds under this subchapter.”.

16 (f) HOMELESS CHILDREN.—Section 640 of the Head
 17 Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9835) is amended by adding at the
 18 end the following:

19 “(m) ENROLLMENT OF HOMELESS CHILDREN.—The
 20 Secretary shall issue regulations to remove barriers to the
 21 enrollment and participation of homeless children in Head
 22 Start programs. Such regulations shall require Head Start
 23 agencies to—

1 “(1) implement policies and procedures to en-
 2 sure that homeless children are identified and re-
 3 ceive appropriate priority for enrollment;

4 “(2) allow homeless children to apply to, enroll
 5 in, and attend Head Start programs while required
 6 documents, such as proof of residency, proof of im-
 7 munization, and other medical records, birth certifi-
 8 cates, and other documents, are obtained within a
 9 reasonable timeframe (consistent with State law);
 10 and

11 “(3) coordinate individual Head Start programs
 12 with efforts to implement subtitle B of title VII of
 13 the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42
 14 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.);

15 “(n) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sub-
 16 chapter shall be construed to require a State to establish
 17 a program of early education for children in the State;
 18 to require any child to participate in a program of early
 19 education in order to attend preschool, or to participate
 20 in any initial screening prior to participation in such pro-
 21 gram, except as provided under section 612(a)(3) of the
 22 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C.
 23 1412(a)(3)) and consistent with section 614(a)(1)(C) of
 24 such Act (20 U.S.C. 1414(a)(1)(C)).

1 ~~“(o) MATERIALS.—All curricula funded under this~~
 2 ~~subchapter shall be scientifically based and age appro-~~
 3 ~~priate. Parents shall have the opportunity to examine any~~
 4 ~~such curricula or instructional materials funded under this~~
 5 ~~subchapter.”.~~

6 **SEC. 7. DESIGNATION OF HEAD START AGENCIES.**

7 Section 641 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9836)
 8 is amended to read as follows:

9 **“SEC. 641. DESIGNATION OF HEAD START AGENCIES.**

10 ~~“(a) DESIGNATION.—~~

11 ~~“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized~~
 12 ~~to designate as a Head Start agency any local public~~
 13 ~~or private nonprofit or for-profit agency, within a~~
 14 ~~community, including a community-based organiza-~~
 15 ~~tion that—~~

16 ~~“(A) has power and authority to carry out~~
 17 ~~the purpose of this subchapter and perform the~~
 18 ~~functions set forth in section 642 within a com-~~
 19 ~~munity; and~~

20 ~~“(B) is determined to be capable of plan-~~
 21 ~~ning; conducting; administering; and evaluating;~~
 22 ~~either directly or by other arrangements; a~~
 23 ~~Head Start program.~~

24 ~~“(2) REQUIRED GOALS FOR DESIGNATION.—In~~
 25 ~~order to be designated as a Head Start agency, an~~

entity described in paragraph (1) shall establish program goals for improving the school readiness of children participating in a program under this subchapter, including goals for meeting the performance standards and additional educational standards described in section 641A and shall establish results-based school readiness goals that are aligned with State early learning standards, if applicable, and requirements and expectations for local public schools.

~~“(3) ELIGIBILITY FOR SUBSEQUENT GRANTS.—~~

~~In order to receive a grant under this subchapter subsequent to the initial grant provided following the date of enactment of the Head Start Improvements for School Readiness Act, an entity described in paragraph (1) shall demonstrate that the entity has met or is making progress toward meeting the goals described in paragraph (2).~~

~~“(4) GOVERNING BODY.—~~

~~“(A) IN GENERAL.—~~

~~“(i) ENSURING HIGH QUALITY PROGRAMS.—In order to be designated as a Head Start agency, an entity described in paragraph (1) shall have a governing body—~~

1 “(I) with legal and fiscal respon-
 2 sibility for administering and over-
 3 seeing programs under this sub-
 4 chapter; and

5 “(II) that fully participates in
 6 the development, planning, implemen-
 7 tation; and evaluation of the programs
 8 to ensure the operation of programs
 9 of high quality.

10 “(ii) ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH
 11 LAWS.—The governing body shall be re-
 12 sponsible for ensuring compliance with
 13 Federal laws and regulations, including the
 14 performance standards described in section
 15 641A, as well as applicable State, Tribal,
 16 and local laws and regulations, including
 17 laws defining the nature and operations of
 18 the governing body.

19 “(B) COMPOSITION OF GOVERNING
 20 BODY.—

21 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The governing
 22 body shall be composed as follows:

23 “(I) Not less than 1 member of
 24 the governing body shall have a back-
 25 ground in fiscal management.

1 ~~“(H) Not less than 1 member of~~
 2 ~~the governing body shall have a back-~~
 3 ~~ground in early childhood develop-~~
 4 ~~ment.~~

5 ~~“(III) Not less than 1 member of~~
 6 ~~the governing body shall live in the~~
 7 ~~local community to be served by the~~
 8 ~~entity.~~

9 ~~“(ii) CONFLICT OF INTEREST.—Mem-~~
 10 ~~bers of the governing body shall—~~

11 ~~“(I) not have a conflict of inter-~~
 12 ~~est with the Head Start agency or del-~~
 13 ~~egate agencies; and~~

14 ~~“(II) not receive compensation~~
 15 ~~for service to the Head Start agency.~~

16 ~~“(C) RESPONSIBILITIES.—~~

17 ~~“(i) IN GENERAL.—The governing~~
 18 ~~body shall be responsible; in consultation~~
 19 ~~with the policy council or the policy com-~~
 20 ~~mittee of the Head Start agency, for—~~

21 ~~“(I) the selection of delegate~~
 22 ~~agencies and such agencies’ service~~
 23 ~~areas;~~

1 “(II) establishing criteria for de-
2 fining recruitment, selection, and en-
3 rollment priorities;

4 “(III) all funding applications
5 and amendments to funding applica-
6 tions for programs under this sub-
7 chapter;

8 “(IV) the annual self-assessment
9 of the Head Start agency or delegate
10 agency’s progress in carrying out the
11 programmatic and fiscal intent of
12 such agency’s grant application; in-
13 cluding planning or other actions that
14 may result from the review of the an-
15 nual audit, self-assessment, and find-
16 ings from the Federal monitoring re-
17 view;

18 “(V) the composition of the pol-
19 icy council or the policy committee of
20 the Head Start agency and the proce-
21 dures by which group members are
22 chosen;

23 “(VI) audits, accounting, and re-
24 porting;

1 “(VII) personnel policies and
2 procedures including decisions with
3 regard to salary scales (and changes
4 made to the scale); salaries of the Ex-
5 ecutive Director, Head Start Director,
6 the Director of Human Resources,
7 and the Chief Fiscal Officer; and deci-
8 sions to hire and terminate program
9 staff; and

10 “(VIII) the community assess-
11 ment, including any updates to such
12 assessment.

13 “(ii) CONDUCT OF RESPONSIBIL-
14 ITIES.—The governing body shall develop
15 an internal control structure to facilitate
16 these responsibilities in order to—

17 “(I) safeguard Federal funds;

18 “(II) comply with laws and regu-
19 lations that have an impact on finan-
20 cial statements;

21 “(III) detect or prevent non-
22 compliance with this subchapter; and

23 “(IV) receive audit reports and
24 direct and monitor staff implementa-
25 tion of corrective actions.

1 “(D) RECEIPT OF INFORMATION.—To fa-
 2 cilitate oversight and Head Start agency ac-
 3 countability, the governing body shall receive
 4 regular and accurate information about pro-
 5 gram planning, policies, and Head Start agency
 6 operations, including—

7 “(i) monthly financial statements (in-
 8 cluding detailed credit card account ex-
 9 penditures for any employee with a Head
 10 Start agency credit card or who seeks re-
 11 imbursement for charged expenses);

12 “(ii) monthly program information
 13 summaries;

14 “(iii) program enrollment reports, in-
 15 cluding attendance reports for children
 16 whose care is partially subsidized by an-
 17 other public agency;

18 “(iv) monthly report of meals and
 19 snacks through programs of the Depart-
 20 ment of Agriculture;

21 “(v) the annual financial audit;

22 “(vi) the annual self-assessment, in-
 23 cluding any findings related to the annual
 24 self-assessment;

1 “(vii) the community assessment of
 2 the Head Start agency’s service area and
 3 any applicable updates; and

4 “(viii) the program information re-
 5 ports.

6 “(E) TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSIST-
 7 ANCE.—Appropriate training and technical as-
 8 sistance shall be provided to the members of the
 9 governing body to ensure that the members un-
 10 derstand the information the members receive
 11 and can effectively oversee and participate in
 12 the programs of the Head Start agency.

13 “(b) COMMUNITIES.—For purposes of this sub-
 14 chapter, a community may be a city, county, or multicounty
 15 or multicounty unit within a State, an Indian reservation
 16 (including Indians in any off-reservation area designated
 17 by an appropriate tribal government in consultation with
 18 the Secretary), or a neighborhood or other area (irrespec-
 19 tive of boundaries or political subdivisions) that provides
 20 a suitable organizational base and possesses the com-
 21 monality of interest needed to operate a Head Start pro-
 22 gram.

23 “(c) PRIORITY IN DESIGNATION.—In administering
 24 the provisions of this section, the Secretary shall, in con-
 25 sultation with the chief executive officer of the State in-

1 involved, give priority in the designation (including redesignation)
 2 nation) of Head Start agencies to any high-performing
 3 Head Start agency or delegate agency that—

4 “(1) is receiving assistance under this subchapter;
 5

6 “(2) meets or exceeds program and financial
 7 management requirements or standards described in
 8 section 641A(a)(1);

9 “(3) has no unresolved deficiencies and has not
 10 had findings of deficiencies during the last triennial
 11 review under section 641A(e); and

12 “(4) can demonstrate, through agreements such
 13 as memoranda of understanding, active collaboration
 14 with the State or local community in the provision
 15 of services for children (such as the provision of extended day
 16 services, education, professional development and training for staff,
 17 and other types of cooperative endeavors).

18 “(d) DESIGNATION WHEN ENTITY HAS PRIORITY.—
 19 If no entity in a community is entitled to the priority specified
 20 in subsection (c), the Secretary shall, after conducting an open
 21 competition, designate a Head Start agency from among qualified
 22 applicants in such community.
 23
 24

1 “(e) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Notwithstanding
 2 any other provision of law, under no condition may a non-
 3 Indian Head Start agency receive a grant to carry out an
 4 Indian Head Start program.

5 “(f) **EFFECTIVENESS.**—In selecting from among
 6 qualified applicants for designation as a Head Start agen-
 7 cy, the Secretary shall consider the effectiveness of each
 8 such applicant to provide Head Start services, based on—

9 “(1) any past performance of such applicant in
 10 providing services comparable to Head Start serv-
 11 ices, including how effectively such applicant pro-
 12 vided such comparable services;

13 “(2) the plan of such applicant to provide com-
 14 prehensive health, educational, nutritional, social,
 15 and other services needed to aid participating chil-
 16 dren in attaining their full potential, and to prepare
 17 children to succeed in school;

18 “(3) the capacity of such applicant to serve eli-
 19 gible children with programs that use scientifically
 20 based research that promote school readiness of chil-
 21 dren participating in the program;

22 “(4) the plan of such applicant to meet stand-
 23 ards set forth in section 641A(a)(1), with particular
 24 attention to the standards set forth in subpara-
 25 graphs (A) and (B) of such section;

1 “(5) the plan of such applicant to coordinate
 2 the Head Start program the applicant proposes to
 3 carry out with other preschool programs, includ-
 4 ing—

5 “(A) the Early Reading First and Even
 6 Start programs under subparts 2 and 3 of part
 7 B of title I of the Elementary and Secondary
 8 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6371 et seq.,
 9 6381 et seq.);

10 “(B) programs under section 619 and part
 11 C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education
 12 Act (20 U.S.C. 1419, 1431 et seq.);

13 “(C) State prekindergarten programs;

14 “(D) child care programs;

15 “(E) the educational programs that the
 16 children in the Head Start program involved
 17 will enter at the age of compulsory school at-
 18 tendance; and

19 “(F) reading readiness programs such as
 20 those conducted by public and school libraries;

21 “(6) the plan of such applicant to coordinate
 22 the Head Start program that the applicant proposes
 23 to carry out with public and private entities who are
 24 willing to commit resources to assist the Head Start
 25 program in meeting its program needs;

1 “(7) the plan of such applicant to collaborate
2 with a local library, where available, that is inter-
3 ested in that collaboration, to—

4 “(A) develop innovative programs to excite
5 children about the world of books, such as pro-
6 grams that involve—

7 “(i) taking children to the library for
8 a story hour;

9 “(ii) promoting the use of library
10 cards;

11 “(iii) developing a lending library or
12 using a mobile library van; and

13 “(iv) providing fresh books in the
14 Head Start classroom on a regular basis;

15 “(B) assist in literacy training for Head
16 Start teachers; and

17 “(C) support parents and other caregivers
18 in literacy efforts;

19 “(8) the plan of such applicant—

20 “(A) to seek the involvement of parents of
21 participating children in activities (at home and
22 in the center involved where practicable) de-
23 signed to help such parents become full part-
24 ners in the education of their children;

1 “(B) to afford such parents the oppor-
 2 tunity to participate in the development and
 3 overall conduct of the program at the local
 4 level, including through providing transpor-
 5 tation costs;

6 “(C) to offer (directly or through referral
 7 to local entities, such as entities carrying out
 8 Even Start programs under subpart 3 of part
 9 B of title I of the Elementary and Secondary
 10 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6381 et
 11 seq.); public and school libraries; and entities
 12 carrying out family support programs) to such
 13 parents—

14 “(i) family literacy services; and

15 “(ii) parenting skills training;

16 “(D) to offer to parents of participating
 17 children substance abuse counseling (either di-
 18 rectly or through referral to local entities); in-
 19 cluding information on the effect of drug expo-
 20 sure on infants and fetal alcohol syndrome;

21 “(E) at the option of such applicant, to
 22 offer (directly or through referral to local enti-
 23 ties) to such parents—

24 “(i) training in basic child develop-
 25 ment (including cognitive development);

1 “(ii) assistance in developing literacy
2 and communication skills;

3 “(iii) opportunities to share experi-
4 ences with other parents (including parent
5 mentor relationships);

6 “(iv) regular in-home visitation; or

7 “(v) any other activity designed to
8 help such parents become full partners in
9 the education of their children;

10 “(F) to provide, with respect to each par-
11 ticipating family, a family needs assessment
12 that includes consultation with such parents
13 about the benefits of parent involvement and
14 about the activities described in subparagraphs
15 (C), (D), and (E) in which such parents may
16 choose to become involved (taking into consider-
17 ation their specific family needs, work sched-
18 ules, and other responsibilities); and

19 “(G) to extend outreach to fathers, in ap-
20 propriate cases, in order to strengthen the role
21 of fathers in families, in the education of their
22 young children, and in the Head Start program,
23 by working directly with fathers and father fig-
24 ures through activities such as—

1 “(i) in appropriate cases, including fa-
2 thers in home visits and providing opportu-
3 nities for direct father-child interactions;
4 and

5 “(ii) targeting increased male partici-
6 pation in the conduct of the program;

7 “(9) the ability of such applicant to carry out
8 the plans described in paragraphs (2), (4), and (5);

9 “(10) other factors related to the requirements
10 of this subchapter;

11 “(11) the plan of such applicant to meet the
12 needs of limited English proficient children and their
13 families, including procedures to identify such chil-
14 dren, plans to provide trained personnel, and plans
15 to provide services to assist the children in making
16 progress toward the acquisition of the English lan-
17 guage;

18 “(12) the plan of such applicant to meet the
19 needs of children with disabilities;

20 “(13) the plan of such applicant who chooses to
21 assist younger siblings of children who will partici-
22 pate in the Head Start program, to obtain health
23 services from other sources;

1 “(14) the plan of such applicant to collaborate
2 with other entities carrying out early childhood edu-
3 cation and child care programs in the community;

4 “(15) the plan of such applicant to meet the
5 needs of homeless children and children in foster
6 care, including the transportation needs of such chil-
7 dren; and

8 “(16) the plan of such applicant to recruit and
9 retain qualified staff.

10 “(g) INTERIM BASIS.—If there is not a qualified ap-
11 plicant in a community for designation as a Head Start
12 agency, the Secretary shall designate a qualified agency
13 to carry out the Head Start program in the community
14 on an interim basis until a qualified applicant from the
15 community is so designated.

16 “(h) INVOLVEMENT OF PARENTS AND AREA RESI-
17 DENTS.—The Secretary shall continue the practice of in-
18 volving parents and area residents who are affected by
19 programs under this subchapter in the selection of quali-
20 fied applicants for designation as Head Start agencies.

21 “(i) PRIORITY.—In selecting from among qualified
22 applicants for designation as a Head Start agency, the
23 Secretary shall give priority to applicants that have dem-
24 onstrated capacity in providing effective, comprehensive,

1 and well-coordinated early childhood services to children
 2 and their families.”.

3 **SEC. 8. QUALITY STANDARDS; MONITORING OF HEAD**
 4 **START AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS.**

5 Section 641A of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
 6 9836a) is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (a)—

8 (A) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking
 9 “642(d)” and inserting “642(e”;

10 (B) in paragraph (1)(B)—

11 (i) in clause (i), by striking “edu-
 12 cation performance standards” and insert-
 13 ing “educational performance standards”;
 14 and

15 (ii) by striking clause (ii) and insert-
 16 ing the following:

17 “(ii) additional educational standards
 18 based on the recommendations of the National
 19 Academy of Sciences panel described in section
 20 649(h) and other experts in the field, to ensure
 21 that the curriculum involved addresses, and
 22 that the children participating in the program
 23 show appropriate progress toward developing
 24 and applying, the recommended educational
 25 outcomes, after the panel considers the appro-

1 priateness of additional educational standards
2 relating to—

3 “(I) language skills related to listen-
4 ing, understanding, speaking, and commu-
5 nicating, including—

6 “(aa) understanding and use of a
7 diverse vocabulary (including knowing
8 the names of colors) and knowledge of
9 how to use oral language to commu-
10 nicate for various purposes;

11 “(bb) narrative abilities used, for
12 example, to comprehend, tell, and re-
13 spond to a story, or to comprehend in-
14 structions;

15 “(cc) ability to detect and
16 produce sounds of the language the
17 child speaks or is learning; and

18 “(dd) clarity of pronunciation
19 and speaking in syntactically and
20 grammatically correct sentences;

21 “(II) prereading knowledge and skills,
22 including—

23 “(aa) alphabet knowledge includ-
24 ing knowing the letter names and as-
25 sociating letters with their shapes and

1 sounds in the language the child
2 speaks or is learning;

3 “(bb) phonological awareness and
4 processes that support reading; for ex-
5 ample, rhyming, recognizing speech
6 sounds and separate syllables in spo-
7 ken words, and putting speech sounds
8 together to make words;

9 “(cc) knowledge, interest in, and
10 appreciation of books, reading, and
11 writing (either alone or with others),
12 and knowledge that books have parts
13 such as the front, back, and title
14 page;

15 “(dd) early writing, including the
16 ability to write one’s own name and
17 other words and phrases; and

18 “(ee) print awareness and con-
19 cepts, including recognizing different
20 forms of print and understanding the
21 association between spoken and writ-
22 ten words;

23 “(III) premathematics knowledge and
24 skills, including—

25 “(aa) number recognition;

1 “(bb) use of early number con-
 2 cepts and operations, including count-
 3 ing, simple adding and subtracting,
 4 and knowledge of quantitative rela-
 5 tionships, such as part versus whole
 6 and comparison of numbers of objects;

7 “(cc) use of early space and loca-
 8 tion concepts, including recognizing
 9 shapes, classification, striation, and
 10 understanding directionality; and

11 “(dd) early pattern skills and
 12 measurement, including recognizing
 13 and extending simple patterns and
 14 measuring length, weight, and time;

15 “(IV) scientific abilities, including—

16 “(aa) building awareness about
 17 scientific skills and methods, such as
 18 gathering, describing, and recording
 19 information, making observations, and
 20 making explanations and predictions;
 21 and

22 “(bb) expanding scientific knowl-
 23 edge of the environment, time, tem-
 24 perature, and cause-and-effect rela-
 25 tionships;

1 “(V) general cognitive abilities related
2 to academic achievement and child develop-
3 ment, including—

4 “(aa) reasoning, planning, and
5 problem-solving skills;

6 “(bb) ability to engage, sustain
7 attention, and persist on challenging
8 tasks;

9 “(cc) intellectual curiosity, initia-
10 tive, and task engagement; and

11 “(dd) motivation to achieve and
12 master concepts and skills;

13 “(VI) social and emotional develop-
14 ment related to early learning and school
15 success, including developing—

16 “(aa) the ability to develop social
17 relationships, demonstrate cooperative
18 behaviors, and relate to teachers and
19 peers in positive and respectful ways;

20 “(bb) an understanding of the
21 consequences of actions, following
22 rules, and appropriately expressing
23 feelings;

1 “(cc) a sense of self, such as self-
 2 awareness, independence, and con-
 3 fidence;

4 “(dd) the ability to control nega-
 5 tive behaviors with teachers and peers
 6 that include impulsiveness, aggression,
 7 and noncompliance; and

8 “(ee) knowledge of civic society
 9 and surrounding communities;

10 “(VII) physical development, including
 11 developing—

12 “(aa) fine motor skills, such as
 13 strength, manual dexterity, and hand-
 14 eye coordination; and

15 “(bb) gross motor skills, such as
 16 balance and coordinated movements;
 17 and

18 “(VIII) in the case of limited English
 19 proficient children, progress toward acqui-
 20 sition of the English language while mak-
 21 ing meaningful progress in attaining the
 22 knowledge, skills, abilities, and develop-
 23 ment described in subclauses (I) through
 24 (VII);”;

1 (C) in paragraph (1)(D), by striking
 2 “projects; and” and inserting “projects, includ-
 3 ing regulations that require that the facilities
 4 used by Head Start agencies (including Early
 5 Head Start agencies) and delegate agencies for
 6 regularly scheduled center-based and combina-
 7 tion program option classroom activities—

8 “(i) shall be in compliance with State
 9 and local requirements concerning licensing
 10 for such facilities; and

11 “(ii) shall be accessible by State and
 12 local authorities for purposes of monitoring
 13 and ensuring compliance.”;

14 (D) in paragraph (2)—

15 (i) in subparagraph (B)—

16 (I) in clause (i), by striking “the
 17 date of enactment of this section” and
 18 inserting “the date of enactment of
 19 the Head Start Improvements for
 20 School Readiness Act”;

21 (II) in clause (ii), by striking
 22 “the date of enactment of this Act”
 23 and inserting “the date of enactment
 24 of the Head Start Improvements for
 25 School Readiness Act”;

1 (III) in clause (vi), by striking “;
2 and” and inserting a semicolon;

3 (IV) in clause (vii), by striking
4 “public schools” and inserting “the
5 schools that the children will be at-
6 tending”; and

7 (V) by adding at the end the fol-
8 lowing:

9 “(viii) the unique challenges faced by
10 individual programs, including those pro-
11 grams that are seasonal or short term and
12 those programs that serve rural popu-
13 lations; and”;

14 (ii) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by strik-
15 ing “the date of enactment of the Coats
16 Human Services Reauthorization Act of
17 1998” and inserting “the date of enact-
18 ment of the Head Start Improvements for
19 School Readiness Act”; and

20 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
21 lowing:

22 “(D) consult with Indian tribes, American
23 Indian and Alaska Native experts in early child-
24 hood development, linguists, and the National
25 Indian Head Start Directors Association on the

1 review and promulgation of program standards
 2 and measures (including standards and meas-
 3 ures for language acquisition and school readi-
 4 ness).”;

5 (E) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(4) EVALUATIONS AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS
 7 FOR DELEGATE AGENCIES.—

8 “(A) PROCEDURES.—

9 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause
 10 (ii), the Head Start agency shall establish
 11 procedures relating to its delegate agen-
 12 cies, including—

13 “(I) procedures for evaluating
 14 delegate agencies;

15 “(II) procedures for defunding
 16 delegate agencies; and

17 “(III) procedures for appealing a
 18 defunding decision relating to a dele-
 19 gate agency.

20 “(ii) TERMINATION.—The Head Start
 21 agency may not terminate a delegate agen-
 22 cy’s contract or reduce a delegate agency’s
 23 service area without showing cause or dem-
 24 onstrating the cost-effectiveness of such a
 25 decision.

1 “(B) EVALUATIONS.—Each Head Start
2 agency—

3 “(i) shall evaluate its delegate agen-
4 cies using the procedures established pur-
5 suant to this section, including subpara-
6 graph (A); and

7 “(ii) shall inform the delegate agen-
8 cies of the deficiencies identified through
9 the evaluation that shall be corrected.

10 “(C) REMEDIES TO ENSURE CORRECTIVE
11 ACTIONS.—In the event that the Head Start
12 agency identifies a deficiency for a delegate
13 agency through the evaluation, the Head Start
14 agency may—

15 “(i) initiate procedures to terminate
16 the designation of the agency unless the
17 agency corrects the deficiency;

18 “(ii) conduct monthly monitoring vis-
19 its to such delegate agency until all defi-
20 ciencies are corrected or the Head Start
21 agency decides to defund such delegate
22 agency; and

23 “(iii) release funds to such delegate
24 agency only as reimbursements until all de-
25 ficiencies are corrected or the Head Start

1 agency decides to defund such delegate
2 agency.

3 “(D) ~~RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.~~—Nothing
4 in this paragraph shall be construed to impact
5 or obviate the responsibilities of the Secretary
6 with respect to Head Start agencies or delegate
7 agencies receiving funding under this sub-
8 chapter.”;

9 ~~(2)~~ in subsection (b)—

10 ~~(A)~~ in paragraph ~~(2)~~—

11 (i) by striking the paragraph heading
12 and inserting the following:

13 ~~“(2) CHARACTERISTICS AND USE OF MEAS-~~
14 ~~URES.—”;~~

15 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
16 “, not later than July 1, 1999; and” and
17 inserting a semicolon;

18 (iii) in subparagraph (C), by striking
19 the period and inserting a semicolon;

20 (iv) by striking the flush matter fol-
21 lowing subparagraph (C); and

22 (v) by adding at the end the following:

23 ~~“(D) measure characteristics that are~~
24 ~~strongly predictive (as determined on a sei-~~

1 entific basis) of a child's school readiness and
2 later performance in school;

3 “(E) be appropriate for the population
4 served; and

5 “(F) be reviewed not less than every 4
6 years, based on advances in the science of early
7 childhood development.

8 The performance measures shall include the per-
9 formance standards and additional educational
10 standards described in subparagraphs (A) and (B)
11 of subsection (a)(1).”;

12 (B) in paragraph (3)—

13 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “;
14 and” and inserting a semicolon;

15 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
16 the period and inserting “; and”; and

17 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
18 lowing:

19 “(C) to enable Head Start agencies to indi-
20 vidualize programs of instruction to better meet
21 the needs of the child involved.”;

22 (C) by striking paragraph (4) and insert-
23 ing the following:

24 “(4) RESULTS-BASED OUTCOME MEASURES.—

25 Results-based outcome measures shall be designed

for the purpose of promoting the knowledge, skills, abilities, and development, described in subsection (a)(1)(B)(ii), of children participating in Head Start programs that are strongly predictive (as determined on a scientific basis) of a child's school readiness and later performance in school.”; and

(D) by striking paragraph (5) and inserting the following:

“(5) ~~ADDITIONAL LOCAL RESULTS-BASED EDUCATIONAL MEASURES AND GOALS.—~~Head Start agencies may establish and implement additional local results-based educational measures and goals.”;

~~(3)~~ in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting “and Head Start centers” after “Head Start programs”;

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking “such agency” and inserting “Head Start center”;

(iii) by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting the following:

“(C) Unannounced site inspections of Head Start centers for health and safety reasons, as appropriate.”;

1 (iv) by redesignating subparagraph
2 (D) as subparagraph (E); and

3 (v) by inserting after subparagraph
4 (C) the following:

5 “(D) Notwithstanding subparagraph (C),
6 followup reviews, including—

7 “(i) prompt return visits to agencies;
8 programs, and centers that fail to meet 1
9 or more of the performance measures de-
10 veloped by the Secretary under subsection
11 (b); and

12 “(ii) a review of programs with cita-
13 tions that include findings of deficiencies
14 not later than 6 months after the date of
15 such citation.”; and

16 (B) by striking paragraph (2) and insert-
17 ing the following:

18 “(2) CONDUCT OF REVIEWS.—The Secretary
19 shall ensure that reviews described in paragraph
20 (1)—

21 “(A) that incorporate a monitoring visit,
22 may incorporate the visit without prior notice of
23 the visit to the agency involved or with such
24 limited prior notice as is necessary to ensure

1 the participation of parents and key staff mem-
2 bers;

3 “(B) are conducted by review teams that
4 shall include individuals who are knowledgeable
5 about Head Start and other early childhood
6 education programs and, to the maximum ex-
7 tent practicable, the diverse (including linguistic
8 and cultural) needs of eligible children (includ-
9 ing children with disabilities, homeless children,
10 and children in foster care) and limited English
11 proficient children and their families;

12 “(C) include as part of the reviews of the
13 programs, a review and assessment of program
14 effectiveness, as measured in accordance with
15 the results-based performance measures devel-
16 oped by the Secretary pursuant to subsection
17 (b) and with the standards established pursuant
18 to subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subsection
19 (a)(1);

20 “(D) seek information from the commu-
21 nities and States where Head Start programs
22 exist about innovative or effective collaborative
23 efforts, barriers to collaboration, and the efforts
24 of the Head Start agencies to collaborate with
25 the entities carrying out early childhood edu-

1 eation and child care programs in the commu-
 2 nity;

3 “(E) include as part of the reviews of the
 4 programs; a review and assessment of whether
 5 the programs are in conformity with the income
 6 eligibility requirements under section 645 and
 7 regulations promulgated under such section;

8 “(F) include as part of the reviews of the
 9 programs; a review and assessment of whether
 10 programs have adequately addressed the popu-
 11 lation and community needs (including needs of
 12 populations of limited English proficient chil-
 13 dren and children of migrant and seasonal
 14 farmworking families); and

15 “(G) include as part of the reviews of the
 16 programs; data from the results of periodic
 17 child assessments; and a review and assessment
 18 of child outcomes and performance as they re-
 19 late to State, local, and agency-determined
 20 school readiness goals.”;

21 (4) in subsection (d)(1)—

22 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph
 23 (A), by inserting “or fails to address the com-
 24 munity needs and strategic plan identified in

1 section 640(g)(2)(C),” after “subsection (b),”;
 2 and

3 (B) in subparagraph (A), by inserting
 4 “and identify the technical assistance to be pro-
 5 vided consistent with paragraph (3)” after “cor-
 6 rected”;

7 (5) in subsection (c), by striking the last sen-
 8 tence and inserting “The information contained in
 9 such report shall be made available to all parents
 10 with children receiving assistance under this sub-
 11 chapter in an understandable and uniform format,
 12 and to the extent practicable, provided in a language
 13 that the parents can understand. Such information
 14 shall be made widely available through public means
 15 such as distribution through public agencies, and, at
 16 a minimum, by posting such information on the
 17 Internet immediately upon publication.”; and

18 (6) by adding at the end the following:

19 “(f) SELF-ASSESSMENTS.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently than
 21 once each program year, with the consultation and
 22 participation of policy groups and, as appropriate,
 23 other community members, each agency receiving
 24 funds under this subchapter shall conduct a self-as-
 25 sessment of the effectiveness and progress in meet-

1 ing programs goals and objectives and in imple-
 2 menting and complying with Head Start program
 3 performance standards.

4 ~~“(2) REPORT AND IMPROVEMENT PLANS.—~~

5 ~~“(A) REPORT.—~~An agency conducting a
 6 self-assessment shall report the findings of the
 7 self-assessment to the relevant policy council,
 8 policy committee, governing body, and regional
 9 office of the Department of Health and Human
 10 Services. Each self-assessment shall identify
 11 areas of strength and weakness.

12 ~~“(B) IMPROVEMENT PLAN.—~~The agency
 13 shall develop an improvement plan approved by
 14 the governing body of the agency to strengthen
 15 any areas identified in the self-assessment as
 16 weaknesses or in need of improvement.

17 ~~“(3) ONGOING MONITORING.—~~Each Head Start
 18 agency, Early Head Start agency, and delegate
 19 agency shall establish and implement procedures for
 20 the ongoing monitoring of their Head Start and
 21 Early Head Start programs, to ensure that the oper-
 22 ations of the programs work toward meeting pro-
 23 gram goals and objectives and Head Start perform-
 24 ance standards.

1 ~~“(4) TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—~~

2 Funds may be made available, through section
3 ~~648(d)(13)~~, for training and technical assistance to
4 assist agencies in conducting self-assessments.

5 ~~“(g) REDUCTION OF GRANTS AND REDISTRIBUTION~~
6 ~~OF FUNDS IN CASES OF UNDER-ENROLLMENT.—~~

7 ~~“(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:~~

8 ~~“(A) ACTUAL ENROLLMENT.—The term~~
9 ~~‘actual enrollment’ means, with respect to the~~
10 ~~program of a Head Start agency, the actual~~
11 ~~number of children enrolled in such program~~
12 ~~and reported by the agency (as required in~~
13 ~~paragraph (2)) in a given month.~~

14 ~~“(B) BASE GRANT.—The term ‘base grant’~~
15 ~~means, with respect to a Head Start agency for~~
16 ~~a fiscal year, that portion of the grant de-~~
17 ~~rived—~~

18 ~~“(i) from amounts reserved for use in~~
19 ~~accordance with section 640(a)(2)(A), for a~~
20 ~~Head Start agency administering an In-~~
21 ~~dian Head Start program or migrant and~~
22 ~~seasonal Head Start program;~~

23 ~~“(ii) from amounts reserved for pay-~~
24 ~~ments under section 640(a)(2)(B); or~~

1 ~~“(iii) from amounts available under~~
 2 ~~section 640(a)(2)(D) or allotted among~~
 3 ~~States under section 640(a)(4).~~

4 ~~“(C) FUNDED ENROLLMENT.—The term~~
 5 ~~‘funded enrollment’ means, with respect to the~~
 6 ~~program of a Head Start agency in a fiscal~~
 7 ~~year, the number of children that the agency is~~
 8 ~~funded to serve through a grant for the pro-~~
 9 ~~gram during such fiscal year, as indicated in~~
 10 ~~the grant agreement.~~

11 ~~“(2) ENROLLMENT REPORTING REQUIREMENT~~
 12 ~~FOR CURRENT FISCAL YEAR.—Each entity carrying~~
 13 ~~out a Head Start program shall report on a monthly~~
 14 ~~basis to the Secretary and the relevant Head Start~~
 15 ~~agency—~~

16 ~~“(A) the actual enrollment in such pro-~~
 17 ~~gram; and~~

18 ~~“(B) if such actual enrollment is less than~~
 19 ~~the funded enrollment, any apparent reason for~~
 20 ~~such enrollment shortfall.~~

21 ~~“(3) SECRETARIAL REVIEW AND PLAN.—The~~
 22 ~~Secretary shall—~~

23 ~~“(A) on a semiannual basis, determine~~
 24 ~~which Head Start agencies are operating with~~
 25 ~~an actual enrollment that is less than the fund-~~

1 ed enrollment based on not less than 4 consecu-
2 tive months of data;

3 ~~“(B) for each such Head Start agency op-~~
4 ~~erating a program with an actual enrollment~~
5 ~~that is less than 95 percent of its funded enroll-~~
6 ~~ment, as determined under subparagraph (A);~~
7 ~~develop, in collaboration with such agency, a~~
8 ~~plan and timetable for reducing or eliminating~~
9 ~~under-enrollment taking into consideration—~~

10 ~~“(i) the quality and extent of the out-~~
11 ~~reach, recruitment, and community needs~~
12 ~~assessment conducted by such agency;~~

13 ~~“(ii) changing demographics, mobility~~
14 ~~of populations, and the identification of~~
15 ~~new underserved low-income populations;~~

16 ~~“(iii) facilities-related issues that may~~
17 ~~impact enrollment;~~

18 ~~“(iv) the ability to provide full-day~~
19 ~~programs, where needed, through Head~~
20 ~~Start funds or through collaboration with~~
21 ~~entities carrying out other preschool or~~
22 ~~child care programs, or programs with~~
23 ~~other funding sources (where available);~~

24 ~~“(v) the availability and use by fami-~~
25 ~~lies of other preschool and child care op-~~

1 tions (including parental care) in the local
2 catchment area; and

3 ~~“(vi) agency management procedures~~
4 ~~that may impact enrollment; and~~

5 ~~“(C) provide timely and ongoing technical~~
6 ~~assistance to each agency described in subpara-~~
7 ~~graph (B) for the purpose of implementing the~~
8 ~~plan described in such subparagraph.~~

9 ~~“(4) IMPLEMENTATION.—Upon receipt of the~~
10 ~~technical assistance described in paragraph (3)(C), a~~
11 ~~Head Start agency shall immediately implement the~~
12 ~~plan described in paragraph (3)(B).~~

13 ~~“(5) SECRETARIAL ACTION FOR CONTINUED~~
14 ~~UNDER-ENROLLMENT.—If, 1 year after the date of~~
15 ~~implementation of the plan described in paragraph~~
16 ~~(3)(B), the Head Start agency continues to operate~~
17 ~~a program at less than full enrollment, the Secretary~~
18 ~~shall, where determined appropriate, continue to~~
19 ~~provide technical assistance to such agency.~~

20 ~~“(6) SECRETARIAL REVIEW AND ADJUSTMENT~~
21 ~~FOR CHRONIC UNDER-ENROLLMENT.—~~

22 ~~“(A) IN GENERAL.—If, after receiving~~
23 ~~technical assistance and developing and imple-~~
24 ~~menting a plan to the extent described in para-~~
25 ~~graphs (3), (4), and (5) for 9 months, a Head~~

1 Start agency is still operating a program with
 2 an actual enrollment that is less than 95 per-
 3 cent of its funded enrollment, the Secretary
 4 may—

5 “(i) designate such agency as chron-
 6 ically under-enrolled; and

7 “(ii) recapture, withhold, or reduce
 8 the base grant for the program by a per-
 9 centage equal to the percentage difference
 10 between funded enrollment and actual en-
 11 rollment for the program for the most re-
 12 cent year in which the agency is deter-
 13 mined to be under-enrolled under para-
 14 graph (2)(B).

15 “(B) WAIVER OR LIMITATION OF REDUC-
 16 TIONS.—If the Secretary, after the implementa-
 17 tion of the plan described in paragraph (3)(B),
 18 finds that—

19 “(i) the causes of the enrollment
 20 shortfall, or a portion of the shortfall, are
 21 beyond the agency’s control (such as serv-
 22 ing significant numbers of migrant or sea-
 23 sonal farmworker, homeless, foster, or
 24 other highly mobile children);

1 “(ii) the shortfall can reasonably be
2 expected to be temporary; or

3 “(iii) the number of slots allotted to
4 the agency is small enough that under-en-
5 rollment does not constitute a significant
6 shortfall, the Secretary may, as appro-
7 priate, waive or reduce the percentage re-
8 capturing, withholding, or reduction other-
9 wise required by subparagraph (A).

10 “(C) PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS; EF-
11 FECTIVE DATE.—The actions taken by the Sec-
12 retary under this paragraph with respect to a
13 Head Start agency shall take effect 1 day after
14 the date on which—

15 “(i) the time allowed for appeal under
16 section 646(a) expires without an appeal
17 by the agency; or

18 “(ii) the action is upheld in an admin-
19 istrative hearing under section 646.

20 “(7) REDISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
22 use amounts recovered from a Head Start agen-
23 cy through recapturing, withholding, or reduc-
24 tion under paragraph (6) in a fiscal year—

1 “(i) in the case of a Head Start agen-
 2 cy administering an Indian Head Start
 3 program or a migrant and seasonal Head
 4 Start program, whose base grant is derived
 5 from amounts specified in paragraph
 6 (1)(C)(i), to redirect funds to 1 or more
 7 agencies that—

8 “(I) are administering Head
 9 Start programs serving the same spe-
 10 cial population; and

11 “(II) demonstrate that the agen-
 12 cies will use such redirected funds to
 13 increase enrollment in their Head
 14 Start programs in such fiscal year; or

15 “(ii) in the case of a Head Start agen-
 16 cy in a State, whose base grant is derived
 17 from amounts specified in clause (ii) or
 18 (iii) of paragraph (1)(C), to redirect funds
 19 to 1 or more agencies that—

20 “(I) are administering Head
 21 Start programs in the same State;
 22 and

23 “(II) make the demonstration de-
 24 scribed in clause (i)(II).

1 “(B) SPECIAL RULE.—If there is no agen-
 2 cy located in a State that meets the require-
 3 ments of subclauses (I) and (II) of subpara-
 4 graph (A)(ii), the Secretary shall use amounts
 5 described in subparagraph (A) to redirect funds
 6 to Head Start agencies located in other States
 7 that make the demonstration described in sub-
 8 paragraph (A)(i)(II).—

9 “(C) ADJUSTMENT TO FUNDED ENROLL-
 10 MENT.—The Secretary shall adjust as necessary
 11 the requirements relating to funded enrollment
 12 indicated in the grant agreement of a Head
 13 Start agency receiving redistributed amounts
 14 under this paragraph.”—

15 **SEC. 9. CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD.**

16 The Head Start Act is amended by inserting after
 17 section 641A (42 U.S.C. 9836a) the following:

18 **“SEC. 641B. CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE IN EARLY CHILD-**
 19 **HOOD.**

20 “(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘center
 21 of excellence’ means a Center of Excellence in Early Child-
 22 hood designated under subsection (b).—

23 “(b) DESIGNATION AND BONUS GRANTS.—The Sec-
 24 retary shall, subject to the availability of funds under this

1 subchapter, including under subsection (f), establish a
 2 program under which the Secretary shall—

3 “(1) designate not more than 200 exemplary
 4 Head Start agencies (including Early Head Start
 5 agencies, Indian Head Start agencies, and migrant
 6 and seasonal Head Start agencies) as Centers of Ex-
 7 cellence in Early Childhood; and

8 “(2) make bonus grants to the centers of excel-
 9 lence to carry out the activities described in sub-
 10 section (d).

11 “(e) APPLICATION AND DESIGNATION.—

12 “(1) APPLICATION.—

13 “(A) NOMINATION AND SUBMISSION.—

14 “(i) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to
 15 receive a designation as a center of excel-
 16 lence under subsection (b), except as pro-
 17 vided in clause (ii), a Head Start agency in
 18 a State shall be nominated by the Gov-
 19 ernor of the State and shall submit an ap-
 20 plication to the Secretary at such time, in
 21 such manner, and containing such infor-
 22 mation as the Secretary may require.

23 “(ii) INDIAN AND MIGRANT AND SEA-
 24 SONAL HEAD START PROGRAMS.—In the
 25 case of an Indian Head Start agency or a

1 migrant or seasonal Head Start agency, to
2 be eligible to receive a designation as a
3 center of excellence under subsection (b);
4 such an agency shall be nominated by the
5 head of the appropriate regional office of
6 the Department and Health and Human
7 Services and shall submit an application to
8 the Secretary in accordance with clause (i).

9 “(B) CONTENTS.—At a minimum, the ap-
10 plication shall include—

11 “(i) evidence that the Head Start pro-
12 gram carried out by the agency has signifi-
13 cantly improved the school readiness of,
14 and enhanced academic outcomes for, chil-
15 dren who have participated in the program;

16 “(ii) evidence that the program meets
17 or exceeds standards and performance
18 measures described in subsections (a) and
19 (b) of section 641A, as evidenced by suc-
20 cessful completion of programmatic and
21 monitoring reviews, and has no findings of
22 deficiencies with respect to the standards
23 and measures;

1 “(iii) evidence that the program is
2 making progress toward meeting the re-
3 quirements described in section 648A;

4 “(iv) evidence demonstrating the ex-
5 istence of a collaborative partnership
6 among the Head Start agency, the State
7 (or a State agency), and other early care
8 and education providers in the local com-
9 munity involved;

10 “(v) a nomination letter from the
11 Governor, or appropriate regional office,
12 demonstrating the agency’s ability to carry
13 out the coordination, transition, and train-
14 ing services of the program to be carried
15 out under the bonus grant involved, includ-
16 ing coordination of activities with State
17 and local agencies that provide early child-
18 hood services to children and families in
19 the community served by the agency;

20 “(vi) information demonstrating the
21 existence of a local council for excellence in
22 early childhood, which shall include rep-
23 resentatives of all the institutions, agen-
24 cies, and groups involved in the work of
25 the center for, and the local provision of

1 services to, eligible children and other at-
 2 risk children, and their families; and

3 “(vii) a description of how the Center,
 4 in order to expand accessibility and con-
 5 tinuity of quality early care and education,
 6 will coordinate the early care and edu-
 7 cation activities assisted under this section
 8 with—

9 “(I) programs carried out under
 10 the Child Care and Development
 11 Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
 12 9858 et seq.);

13 “(II) other programs carried out
 14 under this subchapter, including the
 15 Early Head Start programs carried
 16 out under section 645A;

17 “(III)(aa) Early Reading First
 18 and Even Start programs carried out
 19 under subparts 2 and 3 of part B of
 20 title I of the Elementary and Sec-
 21 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20
 22 U.S.C. 6371 et seq., 6381 et seq.);

23 “(bb) other preschool programs
 24 carried out under title I of that Act
 25 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.); and

1 “(cc) the Ready-to-Learn Tele-
 2 vision program carried out under sub-
 3 part 3 of part D of title II of that Act
 4 (20 U.S.C. 6775 et seq.);

5 “(IV) programs carried out
 6 under part C of the Individuals with
 7 Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C.
 8 1431 et seq.);

9 “(V) State prekindergarten pro-
 10 grams; and

11 “(VI) other early care and edu-
 12 cation programs.

13 “(2) SELECTION.—In selecting agencies to des-
 14 ignate as centers of excellence under subsection (b),
 15 the Secretary shall designate not less than 1 from
 16 each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, an
 17 Indian Head Start program, a migrant and seasonal
 18 Head Start program, and the Commonwealth of
 19 Puerto Rico.

20 “(3) TERM OF DESIGNATION.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-
 22 graph (B), the Secretary shall designate a Head
 23 Start agency as a center of excellence for a 5-
 24 year term. During the period of that designa-
 25 tion, subject to the availability of appropria-

tions, the agency shall be eligible to receive a bonus grant under subsection (b).

~~“(B) REVOCATION.—~~The Secretary may revoke an agency’s designation under subsection (b) if the Secretary determines that the agency is not demonstrating adequate performance or has had findings of deficiencies described in paragraph (1)(B)(ii).

~~“(4) AMOUNT OF BONUS GRANT.—~~The Secretary shall base the amount of funding provided through a bonus grant made under subsection (b) to a center of excellence on the number of children eligible for Head Start services in the community involved. The Secretary shall, subject to the availability of funding, make such a bonus grant in an amount of not less than \$200,000 per year.

~~“(d) USE OF FUNDS.—~~

~~“(1) ACTIVITIES.—~~A center of excellence that receives a bonus grant under subsection (b) may use the funds made available through the bonus grant—

~~“(A) to provide Head Start services to additional eligible children;~~

~~“(B) to better meet the needs of working families in the community served by the center by serving more children in existing Early Head~~

1 Start programs (existing as of the date the cen-
2 ter is designated under this section) or in full-
3 working-day, full calendar year Head Start pro-
4 grams;

5 “(C) to model and disseminate best prae-
6 tices for achieving early academic success, in-
7 cluding achieving school readiness and devel-
8 oping prereading and premathematics skills for
9 at-risk children and achieving the acquisition of
10 the English language for limited English pro-
11 ficient children, and to provide seamless service
12 delivery for eligible children and their families;

13 “(D) to further coordinate early childhood
14 and social services available in the community
15 served by the center for at-risk children (birth
16 through age 8), their families, and pregnant
17 women;

18 “(E) to provide training and cross training
19 for Head Start teachers and staff, child care
20 providers, public and private preschool and ele-
21 mentary school teachers, and other providers of
22 early childhood services, and training and cross
23 training to develop agency leaders;

24 “(F) to provide effective transitions be-
25 tween Head Start programs and elementary

1 school, to facilitate ongoing communication be-
2 tween Head Start and elementary school teach-
3 ers concerning children receiving Head Start
4 services, and to provide training and technical
5 assistance to providers who are public elemen-
6 tary school teachers and other staff of local
7 educational agencies, child care providers, fam-
8 ily service providers, and other providers of
9 early childhood services, to help the providers
10 described in this subparagraph increase their
11 ability to work with low-income, at-risk children
12 and their families;

13 “(G) to develop or maintain partnerships
14 with institutions of higher education and non-
15 profit organizations, including community-based
16 organizations, that recruit, train, place, and
17 support college students to serve as mentors
18 and reading coaches to preschool children in
19 Head Start programs; and

20 “(H) to carry out other activities deter-
21 mined by the center to improve the overall qual-
22 ity of the Head Start program carried out by
23 the agency and the program carried out under
24 the bonus grant involved.

1 “(2) INVOLVEMENT OF OTHER HEAD START
 2 AGENCIES AND PROVIDERS.—A center that receives
 3 a bonus grant under subsection (b), in carrying out
 4 activities under this subsection, shall work with the
 5 center’s delegate agencies, several additional Head
 6 Start agencies, and other providers of early child-
 7 hood services in the community involved, to encour-
 8 age the agencies and providers described in this sen-
 9 tence to carry out model programs.

10 “(c) RESEARCH AND REPORTS.—

11 “(1) RESEARCH.—The Secretary shall, subject
 12 to the availability of funds to carry out this sub-
 13 section, make a grant to an independent organiza-
 14 tion to conduct research on the ability of the centers
 15 of excellence to improve the school readiness of chil-
 16 dren receiving Head Start services, and to positively
 17 impact school results in the earliest grades. The or-
 18 ganization shall also conduct research to measure
 19 the success of the centers of excellence at encour-
 20 aging the center’s delegate agencies, additional Head
 21 Start agencies, and other providers of early child-
 22 hood services in the communities involved to meet
 23 measurable improvement goals, particularly in the
 24 area of school readiness.

1 ~~“(2) REPORT.—~~Not later than 48 months after
 2 the date of enactment of the Head Start Improve-
 3 ments for School Readiness Act, the organization
 4 shall prepare and submit to the Secretary and Con-
 5 gress a report containing the results of the research
 6 described in paragraph (1).

7 ~~“(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—~~There
 8 are authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2006 and
 9 each subsequent fiscal year—

10 ~~“(1) \$90,000,000 to make bonus grants to cen-~~
 11 ters of excellence under subsection (b) to carry out
 12 activities described in subsection (d);

13 ~~“(2) \$2,500,000 to pay for the administrative~~
 14 costs of the Secretary in carrying out this section,
 15 including the cost of a conference of centers of excel-
 16 lence; and

17 ~~“(3) \$2,000,000 for research activities de-~~
 18 scribed in subsection (e).”.

19 **SEC. 10. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF HEAD START AGEN-**
 20 **CIES.**

21 Section 642 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9837)
 22 is amended to read as follows:

1 **~~“SEC. 642. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF HEAD START AGEN-~~**
2 **~~CIES.~~**

3 ~~“(a) IN GENERAL.—In order to be designated as a~~
4 ~~Head Start agency under this subchapter, an agency shall~~
5 ~~have authority under its charter or applicable law to re-~~
6 ~~ceive and administer funds provided under this sub-~~
7 ~~chapter, funds and contributions from private or local~~
8 ~~public sources that may be used in support of a Head~~
9 ~~Start program, and funds provided under any Federal or~~
10 ~~State assistance program pursuant to which a public or~~
11 ~~private nonprofit or for-profit agency (as the case may be)~~
12 ~~organized in accordance with this subchapter, could act~~
13 ~~as a grantee, contractor, or sponsor of projects appro-~~
14 ~~priate for inclusion in a Head Start program. Such an~~
15 ~~agency shall also be empowered to transfer funds so re-~~
16 ~~ceived, and to delegate powers to other agencies, subject~~
17 ~~to the powers of its governing board and its overall pro-~~
18 ~~gram responsibilities. The power to transfer funds and del-~~
19 ~~egate powers shall include the power to make transfers~~
20 ~~and delegations covering component projects in all cases~~
21 ~~in which that power will contribute to efficiency and effec-~~
22 ~~tiveness or otherwise further program objectives.~~

23 ~~“(b) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—In order to be~~
24 ~~designated as a Head Start agency under this subchapter,~~
25 ~~a Head Start agency shall also—~~

1 “(1) establish a program with all standards set
2 forth in section 641A(a)(1), with particular atten-
3 tion to the standards set forth in subparagraphs (A)
4 and (B) of such section;

5 “(2) demonstrate the capacity to serve eligible
6 children with scientifically based curricula and other
7 interventions and support services that help promote
8 the school readiness of children participating in the
9 program;

10 “(3) establish effective procedures and provide
11 for the regular assessment of Head Start children,
12 including observational and direct formal assess-
13 ment, where appropriate;

14 “(4) seek the involvement of parents, area resi-
15 dents, and local business in the design and imple-
16 mentation of the program;

17 “(5) provide for the regular participation of
18 parents and area residents in the implementation of
19 the program;

20 “(6) provide technical and other support needed
21 to enable such parents and area residents to secure,
22 on their own behalf, available assistance from public
23 and private sources;

24 “(7) establish effective procedures to facilitate
25 the involvement of parents of participating children

1 in activities designed to help such parents become
2 full partners in the education of their children, and
3 to afford such parents the opportunity to participate
4 in the development and overall conduct of the pro-
5 gram at the local level;

6 “(8) conduct outreach to schools in which Head
7 Start children will enroll, local educational agencies,
8 the local business community, community-based or-
9 ganizations, faith-based organizations, museums,
10 and libraries to generate support and leverage the
11 resources of the entire local community in order to
12 improve school readiness;

13 “(9) offer (directly or through referral to local
14 entities, such as entities carrying out Even Start
15 programs under subpart 3 of part B of title I of the
16 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
17 (20 U.S.C. 6381 et seq.)), to parents of partici-
18 pating children, family literacy services, and par-
19 enting skills training;

20 “(10) offer to parents of participating children
21 substance abuse and other counseling (either directly
22 or through referral to local entities), if needed, in-
23 cluding information on the effect of drug exposure
24 on infants and fetal alcohol syndrome;

1 “(11) at the option of such agency, offer (di-
 2 rectly or through referral to local entities), to such
 3 parents—

4 “(A) training in basic child development
 5 (including cognitive development);

6 “(B) assistance in developing literacy and
 7 communication skills;

8 “(C) opportunities to share experiences
 9 with other parents (including parent mentor re-
 10 lationships);

11 “(D) regular in-home visitation; or

12 “(E) any other activity designed to help
 13 such parents become full partners in the edu-
 14 cation of their children;

15 “(12) provide, with respect to each partici-
 16 pating family, a family needs assessment that in-
 17 cludes consultation with such parents (including fos-
 18 ter parents and grandparents, where applicable)
 19 about the benefits of parent involvement and about
 20 the activities described in this subsection in which
 21 such parents may choose to be involved (taking into
 22 consideration their specific family needs, work sched-
 23 ules, and other responsibilities);

24 “(13) consider providing services to assist
 25 younger siblings of children participating in its Head

1 Start program, to obtain health services from other
2 sources;

3 “(14) perform community outreach to encour-
4 age individuals previously unaffiliated with Head
5 Start programs to participate in its Head Start pro-
6 gram as volunteers;

7 “(15)(A) inform custodial parents in single-par-
8 ent families that participate in programs, activities,
9 or services carried out or provided under this sub-
10 chapter about the availability of child support serv-
11 ices for purposes of establishing paternity and ac-
12 quiring child support; and

13 “(B) refer eligible parents to the child support
14 offices of State and local governments;

15 “(16) provide parents of limited English pro-
16 ficient children outreach and information in an un-
17 derstandable and uniform format and, to the extent
18 practicable, in a language that the parents can un-
19 derstand; and

20 “(17) at the option of such agency, partner
21 with an institution of higher education and a non-
22 profit organization to provide college students with
23 the opportunity to serve as mentors or reading
24 coaches to Head Start participants.

25 “(c) PROGRESS.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each Head Start agency
 2 shall take steps to ensure, to the maximum extent
 3 possible, that children maintain the developmental
 4 and educational gains achieved in Head Start pro-
 5 grams and build upon such gains in further school-
 6 ing.

7 “(2) COORDINATION.—

8 “(A) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—In
 9 communities where both public prekindergarten
 10 programs and Head Start programs operate, a
 11 Head Start agency shall collaborate and coordi-
 12 nate activities with the local educational agency
 13 or other public agency responsible for the oper-
 14 ation of the prekindergarten program and pro-
 15 viders of prekindergarten, including outreach
 16 activities to identify eligible children.

17 “(B) ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.—Head Start
 18 staff shall, with the permission of the parents
 19 of children enrolled in Head Start programs,
 20 regularly communicate with the elementary
 21 schools such children will be attending to—

22 “(i) share information about such
 23 children;

24 “(ii) get advice and support from the
 25 teachers in such elementary schools re-

1 garding teaching strategies and options;
2 and

3 “(iii) ensure a smooth transition to el-
4 ementary school for such children.

5 “(C) OTHER PROGRAMS.—The head of
6 each Head Start agency shall coordinate activi-
7 ties and collaborate with the State agency re-
8 sponsible for administering the State program
9 carried out under the Child Care and Develop-
10 ment Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858
11 et seq.); other entities carrying out early child-
12 hood education and development programs; and
13 the agencies responsible for administering sec-
14 tion 106 of the Child Abuse Prevention and
15 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a); parts B and
16 E of title IV of the Social Security Act (42
17 U.S.C. 620 et seq. and 670 et seq.); programs
18 under subtitle B of title VII of the McKinney-
19 Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.
20 11431 et seq.); Even Start programs under
21 subpart 3 of part B of title I of the Elementary
22 and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
23 U.S.C. 6381 et seq.); and programs under sec-
24 tion 619 and part C of the Individuals with
25 Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1419;

1 1431 et seq.); serving the children and families
2 served by the Head Start agency.

3 ~~“(3) COLLABORATION.—~~A Head Start agency
4 shall take steps to coordinate activities with the local
5 educational agency serving the community involved
6 and with schools in which children participating in
7 a Head Start program operated by such agency will
8 enroll following such program, including—

9 ~~“(A) collaborating on the shared use of~~
10 transportation and facilities;

11 ~~“(B) collaborating to reduce the duplica-~~
12 tion of services while increasing the program
13 participation of underserved populations of eli-
14 gible children; and

15 ~~“(C) exchanging information on the provi-~~
16 sion of noneducational services to such children.

17 ~~“(4) PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT.—~~In order to
18 promote the continued involvement of the parents of
19 children that participate in Head Start programs in
20 the education of their children upon transition to
21 school, the Head Start agency shall—

22 ~~“(A) provide training to the parents—~~

23 ~~“(i) to inform the parents about their~~
24 rights and responsibilities concerning the
25 education of their children; and

1 “(ii) to enable the parents—
 2 “(I) to understand and work with
 3 schools in order to communicate with
 4 teachers and other school personnel;
 5 “(II) to support the schoolwork
 6 of their children; and
 7 “(III) to participate as appro-
 8 priate in decisions relating to the edu-
 9 cation of their children; and
 10 “(B) take other actions, as appropriate
 11 and feasible, to support the active involvement
 12 of the parents with schools, school personnel,
 13 and school-related organizations.
 14 “(d) ASSESSMENT.—Each Head Start agency shall
 15 adopt, in consultation with experts in child development
 16 and with classroom teachers, an assessment to be used
 17 when hiring or evaluating any classroom teacher in a cen-
 18 ter-based Head Start program. Such assessment shall
 19 measure whether such teacher has mastered the functions
 20 described in section 648A(a)(1) and attained a level of lit-
 21 eracy appropriate to implement Head Start curricula.
 22 “(e) FUNDED ENROLLMENT; WAITING LIST.—Each
 23 Head Start agency shall enroll 100 percent of its funded
 24 enrollment and maintain an active waiting list at all times

1 with ongoing outreach to the community and activities to
 2 identify underserved populations.

3 ~~“(f) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING~~
 4 ~~PLAN.—~~In order to receive funds under this subchapter,
 5 a Head Start agency shall develop an annual technical as-
 6 sistance and training plan. Such plan shall be based on
 7 the agency’s self-assessment, the community needs assess-
 8 ment, and the needs of parents to be served by such agen-
 9 cy.”.

10 **SEC. 11. HEAD START TRANSITION.**

11 Section 642A of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
 12 9837a) is amended to read as follows:

13 **~~“SEC. 642A. HEAD START TRANSITION AND ALIGNMENT~~**
 14 **~~WITH K-12 EDUCATION.~~**

15 ~~“Each Head Start agency shall take steps to coordi-~~
 16 ~~nate activities with the local educational agency serving~~
 17 ~~the community involved and with schools in which children~~
 18 ~~participating in a Head Start program operated by such~~
 19 ~~agency will enroll following such program, including—~~

20 ~~“(1) developing and implementing a systematic~~
 21 ~~procedure for transferring, with parental consent,~~
 22 ~~Head Start program records for each participating~~
 23 ~~child to the school in which such child will enroll;~~

24 ~~“(2) establishing ongoing channels of commu-~~
 25 ~~nication between Head Start staff and their counter-~~

1 parts in the schools (including teachers, social work-
 2 ers, health staff, and local educational agency liai-
 3 sons designated under section 722(g)(1)(J)(ii) of the
 4 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42
 5 U.S.C. 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii))) to facilitate coordination
 6 of programs;

7 “(3) developing continuity of developmentally
 8 appropriate curricula and practice between the Head
 9 Start agency and local educational agency to ensure
 10 an effective transition and appropriate shared expecta-
 11 tions for children’s learning and development as
 12 the children make the transition to school;

13 “(4) conducting meetings involving parents,
 14 kindergarten or elementary school teachers, and
 15 Head Start teachers to discuss the educational, de-
 16 velopmental, and other needs of individual children;

17 “(5) organizing and participating in joint train-
 18 ing, including transition-related training of school
 19 staff and Head Start staff;

20 “(6) developing and implementing a family out-
 21 reach and support program, in cooperation with en-
 22 tities carrying out parental involvement efforts
 23 under title I of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
 24 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.); and
 25 family outreach and support efforts under subtitle B

1 of title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assist-
2 ance Act (42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.), taking into con-
3 sideration the language needs of limited English pro-
4 ficient parents;

5 “(7) assisting families, administrators, and
6 teachers in enhancing educational and developmental
7 continuity and continuity of parental involvement in
8 activities between Head Start services and elemen-
9 tary school classes;

10 “(8) linking the services provided in such Head
11 Start program with the education services, including
12 services relating to language, literacy, and
13 numeracy, provided by such local educational agen-
14 cy;

15 “(9) helping parents understand the importance
16 of parental involvement in a child’s academic success
17 while teaching the parents strategies for maintaining
18 parental involvement as their child moves from the
19 Head Start program to elementary school;

20 “(10) developing and implementing a system to
21 increase program participation of underserved popu-
22 lations of eligible children, including children with
23 disabilities, homeless children, children in foster
24 care, and limited English proficient children; and

1 “(11) coordinating activities and collaborating
 2 to ensure that curricula used in the Head Start pro-
 3 gram is aligned with State early learning standards
 4 with regard to cognitive, social, emotional, and phys-
 5 ical competencies that children entering kinder-
 6 garten are expected to demonstrate.”.

7 **SEC. 12. SUBMISSION OF PLANS TO GOVERNORS.**

8 Section 643 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9838)
 9 is amended—

10 (1) in the first sentence—

11 (A) by inserting “for approval” after “sub-
 12 mitted to the chief executive officer of the
 13 State”; and

14 (B) by striking “45” and inserting “30”;
 15 and

16 (2) in the last sentence, by inserting “to Indian
 17 and migrant and seasonal Head Start programs in
 18 existence on the date of enactment of the Head
 19 Start Improvements for School Readiness Act, or”
 20 after “other assistance”.

21 **SEC. 13. PARTICIPATION IN HEAD START PROGRAMS.**

22 Section 645(a) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
 23 9840(a)) is amended—

24 (1) in paragraph (1)(A), by inserting “130 per-
 25 cent of” after “below”; and

1 (2) by adding at the end the following:

2 ~~“(3)(A) In this paragraph:~~

3 ~~“(i) The term ‘dependent’ has the meaning~~
4 ~~given the term in paragraphs (2)(A) and (4)(A)(i) of~~
5 ~~section 401(a) of title 37, United States Code.~~

6 ~~“(ii) The terms ‘member’ and ‘uniformed serv-~~
7 ~~ices’ have the meanings given the terms in para-~~
8 ~~graphs (23) and (3), respectively, of section 101 of~~
9 ~~title 37, United States Code.~~

10 ~~“(B) The following amounts of pay and allowance of~~
11 ~~a member of the uniformed services shall not be consid-~~
12 ~~ered to be income for purposes of determining the eligi-~~
13 ~~bility of a dependent of such member for programs funded~~
14 ~~under this subchapter.~~

15 ~~“(i) The amount of any special pay payable~~
16 ~~under section 310 of title 37, United States Code, re-~~
17 ~~lating to duty subject to hostile fire or imminent~~
18 ~~danger.~~

19 ~~“(ii) The amount of basic allowance payable~~
20 ~~under section 403 of such title, including any such~~
21 ~~amount that is provided on behalf of the member for~~
22 ~~housing that is acquired or constructed under the al-~~
23 ~~ternative authority for the acquisition and improve-~~
24 ~~ment of military housing under subchapter IV of~~

1 chapter 169 of title 10, United States Code, or any
 2 other related provision of law.

3 “(4) After demonstrating a need through a commu-
 4 nity needs assessment, a Head Start agency may apply
 5 to the Secretary to convert part-day sessions, particularly
 6 consecutive part-day sessions, into full-day sessions.”.

7 **SEC. 14. EARLY HEAD START PROGRAMS.**

8 Section 645A of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
 9 9840a) is amended—

10 (1) by striking the section heading and insert-
 11 ing the following:

12 **“SEC. 645A. EARLY HEAD START PROGRAMS.”;**

13 (2) in subsection (b)—

14 (A) in paragraph (4), by striking “provide
 15 services to parents to support their role as par-
 16 ents” and inserting “provide additional services
 17 to parents to support their role as parents (in-
 18 cluding parenting skills training and training in
 19 basic child development)”;

20 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (5), (6),
 21 (7), (8), and (9) as paragraphs (6), (7), (10),
 22 (11), and (12), respectively;

23 (C) by inserting after paragraph (4) the
 24 following:

1 ~~“(5) where appropriate and in conjunction with~~
 2 ~~services provided under this section to the children’s~~
 3 ~~immediate families (or as approved by the Sec-~~
 4 ~~retary); provide home-based services to family child~~
 5 ~~care homes and kin caregivers caring for infants and~~
 6 ~~toddlers who also participate in Early Head Start~~
 7 ~~programs; to provide continuity in supporting the~~
 8 ~~children’s physical, social, emotional, and intellectual~~
 9 ~~development;”;~~

10 ~~(D) in paragraph (6), as redesignated by~~
 11 ~~subparagraph (B)—~~

12 (i) by inserting ~~“(including home-~~
 13 ~~based services)”~~ after ~~“with services”~~; and

14 (ii) by inserting ~~“; and family support~~
 15 ~~services”~~ after ~~“health services”~~;

16 ~~(E) by inserting after paragraph (7), as re-~~
 17 ~~designated by subparagraph (B), the following:~~

18 ~~“(8) develop and implement a systematic proce-~~
 19 ~~dure for transitioning children and parents from an~~
 20 ~~Early Head Start program into a Head Start pro-~~
 21 ~~gram or another local early childhood education pro-~~
 22 ~~gram;~~

23 ~~“(9) establish channels of communication be-~~
 24 ~~tween staff of Early Head Start programs and staff~~
 25 ~~of Head Start programs or other local early child-~~

1 hood education programs, to facilitate the coordina-
 2 tion of programs;” and

3 (F) in paragraph (11), as redesignated by
 4 subparagraph (B)—

5 (i) by striking “and providers” and in-
 6 serting “, providers”; and

7 (ii) by inserting “, and the agencies
 8 responsible for administering section 106
 9 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treat-
 10 ment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a) and parts B
 11 and E of title IV of the Social Security Act
 12 (42 U.S.C. 620 et seq. and 670 et seq.)”
 13 after “(20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.)”;

14 (3) in subsection (d)—

15 (A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “, in-
 16 eluding tribal governments and entities oper-
 17 ating migrant and seasonal Head Start pro-
 18 grams” after “subchapter”; and

19 (B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “, in-
 20 eluding community-based organizations” after
 21 “private entities”;

22 (4) in subsection (g)(2)(B), by striking clause
 23 (iv) and inserting the following:

24 “(iv) providing professional develop-
 25 ment and personnel enhancement activi-

ties, including the provision of funds to recipients of grants under subsection (a), relating to—

“(I) effective methods of conducting parent education, home visiting, and promoting quality early childhood development;

“(II) recruiting and retaining qualified staff; and

“(III) increasing program participation for underserved populations of eligible children.”;

(5) by adding at the end the following:

“(h) STAFF QUALIFICATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT.—

“(1) CENTER-BASED STAFF.—The Secretary shall ensure that, not later than September 30, 2010, all teachers providing direct services to Early Head Start children and families in Early Head Start centers have a minimum of a child development associate credential or an associate degree, and have been trained (or have equivalent course work) in early childhood development.

“(2) HOME VISITOR STAFF.—

“(A) STANDARDS.—In order to further enhance the quality of home visiting services pro-

vided to families of children participating in
 home-based, center-based, or combination pro-
 gram options under this subchapter, the Sec-
 retary shall establish standards for training,
 qualifications, and the conduct of home visits
 for home visitor staff in Early Head Start pro-
 grams.

“(B) CONTENTS.—The standards for
 training, qualifications, and the conduct of
 home visits shall include content related to—

“(i) structured child-focused home vis-
 iting that promotes parents’ ability to sup-
 port the child’s cognitive, social, emotional,
 and physical development;

“(ii) effective strengths-based parent
 education, including methods to encourage
 parents as their child’s first teachers;

“(iii) early childhood development
 with respect to children from birth through
 age 3;

“(iv) methods to help parents promote
 emergent literacy in their children from
 birth through age 3, including use of re-
 search-based strategies to support the de-
 velopment of literacy and language skills

1 for children who are limited English pro-
 2 ficient;

3 “(v) health, vision, hearing, and devel-
 4 opmental screenings;

5 “(vi) strategies for helping families
 6 coping with crisis; and

7 “(vii) the relationship of health and
 8 well-being of pregnant women to prenatal
 9 and early child development.”.

10 **SEC. 15. APPEALS, NOTICE, AND HEARING AND RECORDS**
 11 **AND AUDITS.**

12 (a) APPEALS.—Section 646(a) of the Head Start Act
 13 (42 U.S.C. 9841(a)) is amended by striking paragraphs
 14 (3) and (4) and inserting the following:

15 “(3) financial assistance under this subchapter
 16 may be terminated or reduced, and an application
 17 for funding may be denied, after the recipient has
 18 been afforded reasonable notice and opportunity for
 19 a full and fair hearing, including—

20 “(A) a right to file a notice of appeal of a
 21 decision within 30 days of notice of the decision
 22 from the Secretary; and

23 “(B) access to a full and fair hearing of
 24 the appeal, not later than 120 days from receipt
 25 by the Secretary of the notice of appeal;

1 “(4) the Secretary shall develop and publish
2 procedures (including mediation procedures) to be
3 used in order to—

4 “(A) resolve in a timely manner conflicts
5 potentially leading to an adverse action be-
6 tween—

7 “(i) recipients of financial assistance
8 under this subchapter; and

9 “(ii) delegate agencies or Head Start
10 Parent Policy Councils;

11 “(B) avoid the need for an administrative
12 hearing on an adverse action; and

13 “(C) prohibit a Head Start agency from
14 expending financial assistance awarded under
15 this subchapter for the purpose of paying legal
16 fees pursuant to an appeal under paragraph
17 (3); except that such fees shall be reimbursed
18 by the Secretary if the agency prevails in such
19 decision; and

20 “(5) the Secretary may suspend funds to a
21 grantee for not more than 30 days.”.

22 (b) RECIPIENTS.—Section 647(a) of the Head Start
23 Act (42 U.S.C. 9842(a)) is amended by striking “Each
24 recipient of” and inserting “Each Head Start agency;
25 Head Start center, or Early Head Start center receiving”.

1 (c) ACCOUNTING.—Section 647 of the Head Start
 2 Act (42 U.S.C. 9842) is amended by adding at the end
 3 the following:

4 “(c) Each Head Start agency, Head Start center, or
 5 Early Head Start center receiving financial assistance
 6 under this subchapter shall maintain, and annually submit
 7 to the Secretary, a complete accounting of its administra-
 8 tive expenses, including expenses for salaries and com-
 9 pensation funded under this subchapter and provide such
 10 additional documentation as the Secretary may require.”.

11 **SEC. 16. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING.**

12 Section 648 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9843)
 13 is amended—

14 (1) in subsection (a)(2), by striking “(b) and
 15 (c)” and inserting “(b), (c), and (d)”;

16 (2) by redesignating subsections (b) through (c)
 17 as subsections (e) through (f), respectively;

18 (3) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
 19 lowing:

20 “(b) The Secretary shall make available funds set
 21 aside in section 640(a)(2)(C)(ii) to support a regional or
 22 State system of early childhood education training and
 23 technical assistance that improves the capacity of Head
 24 Start programs to deliver services in accordance with the
 25 standards described in section 641A(a)(1), with particular

1 attention to the standards described in subparagraphs (A)
 2 and (B) of such section. The Secretary shall—

3 ~~“(1) ensure that agencies with demonstrated~~
 4 ~~expertise in providing high-quality training and tech-~~
 5 ~~nical assistance to improve the delivery of Head~~
 6 ~~Start services, including the State Head Start Asso-~~
 7 ~~ciations, State agencies, migrant and seasonal Head~~
 8 ~~Start programs, and other entities providing training~~
 9 ~~and technical assistance in early education, for the~~
 10 ~~region or State are included in the planning and co-~~
 11 ~~ordination of the system; and~~

12 ~~“(2) encourage States to supplement the funds~~
 13 ~~authorized in section 640(a)(2)(C)(ii) with Federal,~~
 14 ~~State, or local funds other than Head Start funds,~~
 15 ~~to expand training and technical assistance activities~~
 16 ~~beyond Head Start agencies to include other pro-~~
 17 ~~viders of other early childhood services within a re-~~
 18 ~~gion or State.”;~~

19 ~~(4) in subsection (d), as so redesignated—~~

20 ~~(A) in paragraph (1)(B)(ii), by striking~~
 21 ~~“educational performance measures” and in-~~
 22 ~~serting “measures”;~~

23 ~~(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “and~~
 24 ~~for activities described in section 1221(b)(3) of~~
 25 ~~the Elementary and Secondary Education Act~~

1 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6371(b)(3))” after “chil-
 2 dren with disabilities”;

3 (C) in paragraph (5), by inserting “, in-
 4 cluding assessing the needs of homeless children
 5 and their families” after “needs assessment”;

6 (D) in paragraph (10), by striking “; and”
 7 and inserting a semicolon;

8 (E) in paragraph (11), by striking the pe-
 9 riod and inserting a semicolon; and

10 (F) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(12) assist Head Start agencies and programs
 12 in increasing the program participation of homeless
 13 children;

14 “(13) provide training and technical assistance
 15 to members of governing bodies to ensure that the
 16 members can fulfill the functions described in sec-
 17 tion 641(a)(4);

18 “(14) provide training and technical assistance
 19 to Head Start agencies to assist such agencies in
 20 conducting self-assessments; and

21 “(15) assist Head Start agencies and Head
 22 Start programs in improving outreach to, and qual-
 23 ity of services available to, limited English proficient
 24 children and their families, including such services
 25 to help such families learn English, particularly in

1 communities that have experienced a large percent-
 2 age increase in the population of limited English
 3 proficient individuals, as measured by the Bureau of
 4 the Census.”;

5 (5) in subsection (e), as so redesignated, by in-
 6 serting “including community-based organizations,”
 7 after “nonprofit entities”;

8 (6) in subsection (f), as so redesignated, by in-
 9 serting “or providing services to children determined
 10 to be abused or neglected, training for personnel
 11 providing services to children referred by entities
 12 providing child welfare services or receiving child
 13 welfare services,” after “English language),”; and

14 (7) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(g) The Secretary shall provide, either directly or
 16 through grants or other arrangements, funds for training
 17 of Head Start personnel in addressing the unique needs
 18 of migrant and seasonal farmworking families, families
 19 with limited English proficiency, and homeless families:

20 “(h) Funds used under this section shall be used to
 21 provide high quality, sustained, and intensive, training
 22 and technical assistance in order to have a positive and
 23 lasting impact on classroom instruction. Funds shall be
 24 used to carry out activities related to 1 or more of the
 25 following:

1 ~~“(1) Education and early childhood develop-~~
 2 ~~ment.~~

3 ~~“(2) Child health, nutrition, and safety.~~

4 ~~“(3) Family and community partnerships.~~

5 ~~“(4) Other areas that impact the quality or~~
 6 ~~overall effectiveness of Head Start programs.~~

7 ~~“(i) Funds used under this section for training shall~~
 8 ~~be used for needs identified annually by a grant applicant~~
 9 ~~or delegate agency in its program improvement plan, ex-~~
 10 ~~cept that funds shall not be used for long-distance travel~~
 11 ~~expenses for training activities—~~

12 ~~“(1) available locally or regionally; or~~

13 ~~“(2) substantially similar to locally or regionally~~
 14 ~~available training activities.~~

15 ~~“(j)(1) To support local efforts to enhance early lan-~~
 16 ~~guage and preliteracy development of children in Head~~
 17 ~~Start programs, and to provide the children with high-~~
 18 ~~quality oral language skills, and environments that are~~
 19 ~~rich in literature, in which to acquire language and~~
 20 ~~preliteracy skills, each Head Start agency, in coordination~~
 21 ~~with the appropriate State office and the relevant State~~
 22 ~~Head Start collaboration office, shall ensure that all of~~
 23 ~~the agency’s Head Start teachers receive ongoing training~~
 24 ~~in language and emergent literacy (referred to in this sub-~~
 25 ~~section as ‘literacy training’), including appropriate cur-~~

1 ricula and assessments to improve instruction and learn-
 2 ing. Such training shall include training in methods to
 3 promote phonological and phonemic awareness and vocab-
 4 ulary development in an age-appropriate and culturally
 5 and linguistically appropriate manner.

6 “(2) The literacy training shall be provided at the
 7 local level in order—

8 “(A) to be provided, to the extent feasible, in
 9 the context of the Head Start programs of the State
 10 involved and the children the program serves; and

11 “(B) to be tailored to the early childhood lit-
 12 eracy background and experience of the teachers in-
 13 volved.

14 “(3) The literacy training shall be culturally and lin-
 15 guistically appropriate and support children’s development
 16 in their home language.

17 “(4) The literacy training shall include training in
 18 how to work with parents to enhance positive language
 19 and early literacy development at home.

20 “(5) The literacy training shall include specific meth-
 21 ods to best address the needs of children who are English
 22 language learners or are limited English proficient.

23 “(6) The literacy training shall include specific meth-
 24 ods to best address the needs of children who have speech

1 and language delays, including problems with articulation;
 2 or have other disabilities.”.

3 **SEC. 17. STAFF QUALIFICATION AND DEVELOPMENT.**

4 Section 648A of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
 5 9843a) is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (a)—

7 (A) by striking paragraph (2) and insert-
 8 ing the following:

9 “(2) DEGREE REQUIREMENTS.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
 11 ensure that—

12 “(i) not later than September 30,
 13 2010, all Head Start teachers in center-
 14 based programs have at least—

15 “(I)(aa) an associate degree (or
 16 equivalent coursework) relating to
 17 early childhood; or

18 “(bb) an associate degree in a re-
 19 lated educational area and, to the ex-
 20 tent practicable, coursework relating
 21 to early childhood; and

22 “(II) demonstrated teaching com-
 23 petencies, as determined by the pro-
 24 gram director involved (including, at a
 25 minimum, an appropriate level of lit-

1 eracy; a demonstrated capacity to be
 2 highly engaged with children; and a
 3 demonstrated ability to effectively im-
 4 plement an early childhood cur-
 5 riculum); and

6 “(ii) not later than September 30,
 7 2008, all Head Start curriculum specialists
 8 and education coordinators in center-based
 9 programs have—

10 “(I) the capacity to offer assist-
 11 ance to other teachers in the imple-
 12 mentation and adaptation of curricula
 13 to the group and individual needs of a
 14 class; and

15 “(H)(aa) a baccalaureate or ad-
 16 vanced degree relating to early child-
 17 hood; or

18 “(bb) a baccalaureate or ad-
 19 vanced degree and coursework equiva-
 20 lent to a major relating to early child-
 21 hood;

22 “(iii) not later than September 30,
 23 2008, all Head Start teaching assistants in
 24 center-based programs have—

1 “(I) at least a child development
2 associate credential;

3 “(II) enrolled in a program lead-
4 ing to an associate or baccalaureate
5 degree; or

6 “(III) enrolled in a child develop-
7 ment associate credential program to
8 be completed within 2 years; and

9 “(iv) not later than September 30,
10 2011—

11 “(I) in States that have estab-
12 lished teacher requirements for State
13 prekindergarten programs, all Head
14 Start teachers in center-based pro-
15 grams—

16 “(aa) if such requirements
17 are not less than those require-
18 ments described in subclause
19 (II), meet such teacher require-
20 ments for State prekindergarten
21 programs; and

22 “(bb) if such requirements
23 are less than those requirements
24 described in subclause (II), meet

1 the requirements described in
2 subelause (H); and

3 “(H) in States that do not have
4 teacher requirements for their State
5 prekindergarten programs, 50 percent
6 of all Head Start teachers in each
7 center-based program have a baccalaureate degree relating to early childhood (or a related educational area or
8 a baccalaureate degree that meets
9 State specialized training requirements for prekindergarten teachers,
10 such as State licensure, endorsement,
11 or certification for prekindergarten or
12 other early childhood area); and demonstrated teaching competencies, as
13 determined by the program director
14 involved (including, at a minimum, an
15 appropriate level of literacy, a demonstrated capacity to be highly engaged with children, and a demonstrated ability to effectively implement an early childhood curriculum).
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24 “(B) TEACHER IN-SERVICE REQUIRE-
25 MENT.—Each Head Start teacher shall attend

1 an average of not less than 15 clock hours of
 2 professional development per year. Such profes-
 3 sional development shall be high quality, sus-
 4 tained, intensive, and classroom-focused in
 5 order to have a positive and lasting impact on
 6 classroom instruction and the teacher's per-
 7 formance in the classroom, and regularly evalu-
 8 ated for effectiveness.

9 ~~“(C) PROGRESS.—~~

10 ~~“(i) REPORT.—The Secretary shall—~~

11 ~~“(I) require Head Start agencies~~

12 ~~to—~~

13 ~~“(aa) demonstrate con-~~
 14 ~~tinuing progress each year to~~
 15 ~~reach the result described in sub-~~
 16 ~~paragraph (A); and~~

17 ~~“(bb) submit to the Sec-~~
 18 ~~retary a report indicating the~~
 19 ~~number and percentage of class-~~
 20 ~~room instructors in center-based~~
 21 ~~programs with child development~~
 22 ~~associate credentials or associate,~~
 23 ~~baccalaureate, or graduate de-~~
 24 ~~grees; and~~

1 “(H) compile and submit a sum-
 2 mary of all program reports described
 3 in subelause (I)(bb) to the Committee
 4 on Education and the Workforce of
 5 the House of Representatives and the
 6 Committee on Health, Education,
 7 Labor, and Pensions of the Senate.

8 “(ii) DEMONSTRATE PROGRESS.—A
 9 Head Start agency may demonstrate
 10 progress by partnering with institutions of
 11 higher education or other programs that
 12 recruit, train, place, and support college
 13 students to deliver an innovative early
 14 learning program to preschool children.

15 “(D) SERVICE REQUIREMENTS.—The Sec-
 16 retary shall establish requirements to ensure
 17 that, in order to enable Head Start agencies to
 18 comply with the requirements of subparagraph
 19 (A), individuals who receive financial assistance
 20 under this subchapter to pursue a degree de-
 21 scribed in subparagraph (A) shall—

22 “(i) teach or work in a Head Start
 23 program for a minimum of 3 years after
 24 receiving the degree; or

1 “(ii) repay the total or a prorated
2 amount of the financial assistance received
3 based on the length of service completed
4 after receiving the degree.”; and

5 (B) by striking paragraphs (3) and (4) and
6 inserting the following:

7 “(3) WAIVER.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—On request, the Sec-
9 retary may grant a waiver of the postsecondary
10 degree requirements of paragraph (2) for 1 or
11 more Head Start agencies, either individually,
12 statewide, or throughout a region, that can
13 demonstrate—

14 “(i) that continuing aggressive state-
15 wide and national efforts have been unsue-
16 cessful at recruiting an individual to serve
17 as a Head Start teacher or curriculum spe-
18 cialist or education coordinator who meets
19 the requirements of paragraph (2)(A);

20 “(ii) limited access to degree pro-
21 grams (including quality distance learning
22 programs), due to the remote location of
23 the program involved; or

1 “(iii) that Head Start staff members
2 are, as of the day the waiver is granted,
3 enrolled in a program that—

4 “(I) grants the required degree;
5 and

6 “(II) will be completed within 1
7 year.

8 “(B) LIMITATION.—An agency that re-
9 ceives a waiver under subparagraph (A) shall
10 ensure that Head Start teachers for the agency,
11 as of the day the waiver is granted, who have
12 not met the postsecondary degree requirements
13 of paragraph (2) but are otherwise highly quali-
14 fied and competent shall be directly and appro-
15 priately supervised by a teacher who has met or
16 exceeded the requirements of this subchapter.

17 “(C) DURATION.—The Secretary may not
18 grant a waiver under subparagraph (A) for a
19 period that exceeds 1 year.”;

20 (2) in subsection (c)—

21 (A) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at
22 the end;

23 (B) in paragraph (3), by striking the pe-
24 riod and inserting “; and”; and

25 (C) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(4) promote the use of appropriate strategies
2 to meet the needs of special populations (including
3 limited English proficient populations).”;

4 (3) in subsection (d)(3)(C) by inserting “, in-
5 cluding a center,” after “any agency”; and

6 (4) by adding at the end the following:

7 “(f) **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS.**—Every
8 Head Start agency and center shall create, in consultation
9 with employees of the agency or center (including family
10 service workers), a professional development plan for em-
11 ployees who provide direct services to children, including
12 a plan for classroom teachers, curriculum specialists, and
13 education coordinators to meet the requirements set forth
14 in subsection (a).”.

15 **SEC. 18. TRIBAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES HEAD**
16 **START PARTNERSHIP.**

17 The Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.) is
18 amended by inserting after section 648A the following:

19 **“SEC. 648B. TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY HEAD START**
20 **PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.**

21 “(a) **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of this section is to
22 promote social competencies and school readiness in In-
23 dian children.

24 “(b) **TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY HEAD START**
25 **PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.**—

1 “(1) GRANTS.—The Secretary is authorized to
2 award grants, for periods of not less than 5 years,
3 to Tribal Colleges and Universities to—

4 “(A) implement education programs that
5 include education concerning tribal culture and
6 language and increase the number of associate,
7 baccalaureate, and graduate degrees in early
8 childhood education and related fields that are
9 earned by Indian Head Start agency staff mem-
10 bers, parents of children served by such an
11 agency, and members of the tribal community
12 involved;

13 “(B) develop and implement the programs
14 under subparagraph (A) in technology-mediated
15 formats, including providing the programs
16 through such means as distance learning and
17 use of advanced technology, as appropriate; and

18 “(C) provide technology literacy programs
19 for Indian Head Start agency staff members
20 and children and families of children served by
21 such an agency.

22 “(2) STAFFING.—The Secretary shall ensure
23 that the American Indian Programs Branch of the
24 Head Start Bureau of the Department of Health
25 and Human Services shall have staffing sufficient to

1 administer the programs under this section and to
 2 provide appropriate technical assistance to Tribal
 3 Colleges and Universities receiving grants under this
 4 section.

5 “(c) APPLICATION.—Each Tribal College or Univer-
 6 sity desiring a grant under this section shall submit an
 7 application to the Secretary, at such time, in such manner,
 8 and containing such information as the Secretary may re-
 9 quire, including a certification that the Tribal College or
 10 University has established a partnership with 1 or more
 11 Indian Head Start agencies for the purpose of conducting
 12 the activities described in subsection (b).

13 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
 14 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section,
 15 \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2006 and such sums as may
 16 be necessary for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2010.

17 “(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

18 “(1) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—
 19 The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the
 20 meaning given such term in section 101(a) of the
 21 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).

22 “(2) TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.—The
 23 term ‘Tribal College or University’—

1 “(A) has the meaning given such term in
2 section 316 of the Higher Education Act of
3 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059e); and

4 “(B) means an institution determined to
5 be accredited or a candidate for accreditation
6 by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or
7 association.”.

8 **SEC. 19. RESEARCH, DEMONSTRATIONS, AND EVALUATION.**

9 Section 649 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9844)
10 is amended—

11 (1) in subsection (a)(1)(B), by inserting “and
12 children determined to be abused or neglected” after
13 “children with disabilities”;

14 (2) in subsection (d)—

15 (A) in paragraph (8), by adding “and”
16 after the semicolon;

17 (B) by striking paragraph (9);

18 (C) by redesignating paragraph (10) as
19 paragraph (9); and

20 (D) by striking the last sentence;

21 (3) in subsection (g)—

22 (A) in paragraph (1)(A)—

23 (i) by striking clause (i); and

1 (ii) by redesignating clauses (ii) and
 2 (iii) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively;
 3 and

4 (B) in paragraph (7)(C)—

5 (i) in clause (i)(I), by striking “2003”
 6 and inserting “2007”; and

7 (ii) in clause (ii), by striking “Labor
 8 and Human Resources” and inserting
 9 “Health, Education, Labor, and Pen-
 10 sions”; and

11 (4) by striking subsection (h) and inserting the
 12 following:

13 “(h) NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES STUDY.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall enter
 15 into a contract with the Board on Children, Youth,
 16 and Families of the National Research Council, the
 17 Board on Testing and Assessments, and the Insti-
 18 tute of Medicine, of the National Academy of
 19 Sciences to establish an independent panel of experts
 20 to review and synthesize research and theories in the
 21 social, behavioral, and biological sciences regarding
 22 early childhood, and make recommendations with re-
 23 gard to each of the following:

24 “(A) Age- and developmentally appropriate
 25 Head Start academic requirements and out-

comes, including the standards described in section 641A(a)(1)(B)(ii).

“(B) Differences in the type, length, mix, and intensity of services that are necessary to ensure that children from challenging family or social backgrounds (including low-income children, children with disabilities, and limited English proficient children) enter kindergarten ready to succeed.

“(C) Appropriate assessments of young children for the purposes of improving instruction, services, and program quality, including—

“(i) formal and systematic observational assessments in a child’s natural environment;

“(ii) assessments of children’s development through parent and provider interviews;

“(iii) appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities and limited English proficient children;

“(iv) appropriate assessments for children with disabilities, limited English proficient children, and children from different cultural backgrounds; and

1 ~~“(v) other assessments used in Head~~
 2 ~~Start programs.~~

3 ~~“(D) Identification of existing, or rec-~~
 4 ~~ommendations for the development of, scientif-~~
 5 ~~ically based, valid and reliable assessments that~~
 6 ~~are capable of measuring child outcomes in the~~
 7 ~~domains important to school readiness, includ-~~
 8 ~~ing language skills, prereading ability,~~
 9 ~~premathematics ability, cognitive ability, sci-~~
 10 ~~entific ability, social and emotional develop-~~
 11 ~~ment, and physical development;~~

12 ~~“(E) Appropriate use and application of~~
 13 ~~valid and reliable assessments for Head Start~~
 14 ~~programs identified in accordance with subpara-~~
 15 ~~graph (D).~~

16 ~~“(2) COMPOSITION.—~~

17 ~~“(A) IN GENERAL.—The panel described~~
 18 ~~in paragraph (1) shall consist of multiple ex-~~
 19 ~~perts in each of the following areas:~~

20 ~~“(i) Child development (including cog-~~
 21 ~~nitive, social, emotional, and physical de-~~
 22 ~~velopment) and child education (including~~
 23 ~~approaches to learning).~~

1 “(ii) Professional development, includ-
 2 ing preparation of individuals who teach
 3 young children.

4 “(iii) Assessment of young children
 5 (including children with disabilities and
 6 limited English proficient children), includ-
 7 ing screening, diagnostic, and classroom-
 8 based instructional assessment.

9 “(B) REPRESENTATIVES.—The panel de-
 10 scribed in paragraph (1) shall be selected and
 11 appointed by the National Academy of Sciences,
 12 after consultation with the Secretary of Health
 13 and Human Services.

14 “(3) TIMING.—

15 “(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90
 16 days after the date of enactment of the Head
 17 Start Improvements for School Readiness Act,
 18 the Board on Children, Youth, and Families of
 19 the National Research Council, the Board on
 20 Testing and Assessments, and the Institute of
 21 Medicine, of the National Academy of Sciences
 22 shall establish the panel described in paragraph
 23 (1), including selecting and appointing the
 24 members of the panel. Representatives de-

1 scribed in paragraph (2) shall be selected and
2 appointed after consultation with the Secretary.

3 ~~“(B) RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than~~
4 ~~1~~ year after the panel described in paragraph
5 (1) is established, the panel shall complete, and
6 submit to the Secretary a report containing, the
7 recommendations described in paragraph (1).
8 The Secretary shall not implement the amend-
9 ments made to section 641A(a)(1)(B)(ii) by the
10 Head Start Improvements for School Readiness
11 Act until the panel submits the report.

12 ~~“(4) APPLICATION OF PANEL REPORT.—The~~
13 Secretary shall use the results of the review and rec-
14 ommendations described in paragraph (1) to (where
15 appropriate) develop, inform, and revise—

16 ~~“(A) the educational standards, and the~~
17 performance measures, described in section
18 641A; and

19 ~~“(B) the assessments utilized in the Head~~
20 Start programs.

21 ~~“(i) SERVICES TO LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENT~~
22 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.—

23 ~~“(1) STUDY.—The Secretary shall conduct a~~
24 study on the status of limited English proficient

1 children and their families in Head Start or Early
2 Head Start programs.

3 “(2) REPORT.—The Secretary shall prepare
4 and submit to Congress, not later than September
5 2009, a report containing the results of the study,
6 including information on—

7 “(A) the demographics of limited English
8 proficient children from birth through age 5, in-
9 cluding the number of such children receiving
10 Head Start or Early Head Start services and
11 the geographic distribution of children described
12 in this subparagraph;

13 “(B) the nature of Head Start or Early
14 Head Start services provided to limited English
15 proficient children and their families, including
16 the types, content, duration, intensity, and costs
17 of family services, language assistance, and
18 educational services;

19 “(C) procedures in Head Start programs
20 for the assessment of language needs and the
21 transition of limited English proficient children
22 to kindergarten, including the extent to which
23 Head Start programs meet the requirements of
24 section 642A for limited English proficient chil-
25 dren;

1 “(D) the qualifications and training pro-
2 vided to Head Start and Early Head Start
3 teachers serving limited English proficient chil-
4 dren and their families;

5 “(E) the rate of progress made by limited
6 English proficient children and their families in
7 Head Start programs and Early Head Start
8 programs, including—

9 “(i) the rate of progress of the limited
10 English proficient children toward meeting
11 the additional educational standards de-
12 scribed in section 641A(a)(1)(B)(ii) while
13 enrolled in Head Start programs, meas-
14 ured between 1990 and 2004;

15 “(ii) the correlation between such
16 progress and the type of instruction and
17 educational program provided to the lim-
18 ited English proficient children; and

19 “(iii) the correlation between such
20 progress and the health and family services
21 provided by Head Start programs to lim-
22 ited English proficient children and their
23 families; and

24 “(F) the extent to which Head Start pro-
25 grams make use of funds under section

1 640(a)(3) to improve the quality of Head Start
 2 services provided to limited English proficient
 3 children and their families.”.

4 **SEC. 20. REPORTS.**

5 Section 650 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9846)
 6 is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (a)—

8 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),
 9 by striking “Labor and Human Resources” and
 10 inserting “Health, Education, Labor, and Pen-
 11 sions”;

12 (B) in paragraph (8), by inserting “home-
 13 lessness, children in foster care, children who
 14 are abused or neglected,” after “ethnic back-
 15 ground,”; and

16 (C) in the flush matter at the end by strik-
 17 ing “Labor and Human Resources” and insert-
 18 ing “Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions”;
 19 and

20 (2) in subsection (b), by striking “Labor and
 21 Human Resources” and inserting “Health, Edu-
 22 cation, Labor, and Pensions”.

23 **SEC. 21. COMPARABILITY OF WAGES.**

24 Section 653 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9848)
 25 is amended—

1 (1) by striking “The Secretary shall take” and
2 inserting “(a) The Secretary shall take”;

3 (2) in the first sentence of subsection (a), by
4 striking “or (2)” and inserting “(2) in excess of the
5 salary of the Secretary, in the case of an individual
6 compensated with funds awarded under this sub-
7 chapter or the Community Services Block Grant Act
8 (42 U.S.C. 9901 et seq.); or (3)”;

9 (3) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(b) If in any fiscal year the restriction described in
11 subsection (a)(2) is violated, the Secretary shall withhold
12 from the base grant of the Head Start agency involved
13 (as defined in section 641A(g)(1)) for the next fiscal year,
14 an amount equal to the aggregate amount by which the
15 salary that resulted in the violation exceeded the salary
16 of the Secretary.”.

17 **SEC. 22. LIMITATION WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN UNLAW-**
18 **FUL ACTIVITIES.**

19 Section 655 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9850)
20 is amended by inserting “or in” after “assigned by”.

21 **SEC. 23. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.**

22 Section 656 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9851)
23 is amended—

24 (1) by striking all that precedes “chapter 15”
25 and inserting the following:

1 **~~“SEC. 656. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.~~**

2 ~~“(a) STATE OR LOCAL AGENCY.—For purposes of”;~~
 3 ~~and~~

4 ~~(2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the~~
 5 ~~following:~~

6 **~~“(b) RESTRICTIONS.—~~**

7 ~~“(1) IN GENERAL.—A program assisted under~~
 8 ~~this subchapter, and any individual employed by, or~~
 9 ~~assigned to, a program assessed under this sub-~~
 10 ~~chapter (during the hours in which such individual~~
 11 ~~is working on behalf of such program); shall not en-~~
 12 ~~gage in—~~

13 ~~“(A) any partisan or nonpartisan political~~
 14 ~~activity or any other political activity associated~~
 15 ~~with a candidate, or contending faction or~~
 16 ~~group, in an election for public or party office;~~

17 ~~“(B) any activity to provide voters or pro-~~
 18 ~~spective voters with transportation to the polls~~
 19 ~~or similar assistance in connection with any~~
 20 ~~such election; or~~

21 ~~“(C) any voter registration activity.~~

22 **~~“(2) RULES AND REGULATIONS.—The Sec-~~**
 23 ~~retary, after consultation with the Director of the~~
 24 ~~Office of Personnel Management, may issue rules~~
 25 ~~and regulations to provide for the enforcement of~~
 26 ~~this section, which may include provisions for sum-~~

1 mary suspension of assistance or other action nec-
 2 essary to permit enforcement on an emergency
 3 basis.”.

4 **SEC. 24. PARENTAL CONSENT REQUIREMENT FOR HEALTH**
 5 **SERVICES.**

6 The Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.) is
 7 amended by adding at the end the following new section:

8 **“SEC. 657A. PARENTAL CONSENT REQUIREMENT FOR NON-**
 9 **EMERGENCY INTRUSIVE PHYSICAL EXAMINA-**
 10 **TIONS.**

11 “(a) DEFINITION.—The term ‘nonemergency intru-
 12 sive physical examination’ means, with respect to a child,
 13 a physical examination that—

14 “(1) is not immediately necessary to protect the
 15 health or safety of the child or the health or safety
 16 of another individual; and

17 “(2) requires incision or is otherwise invasive;
 18 or involves exposure of private body parts.

19 “(b) REQUIREMENT.—A Head Start agency shall ob-
 20 tain written parental consent before administration of, or
 21 referral for, any health care service provided or arranged
 22 to be provided, including any nonemergency intrusive
 23 physical examination of a child in connection with partici-
 24 pation in a program under this subchapter.

1 “(c) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this sec-
 2 tion shall be construed to prohibit agencies from using es-
 3 tablished methods, for handling cases of suspected or
 4 known child abuse and neglect, that are in compliance
 5 with applicable Federal, State, or tribal law.”.

6 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

7 *This Act may be cited as the “Head Start Improve-*
 8 *ments for School Readiness Act”.*

9 **SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE.**

10 *Section 636 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831)*
 11 *is amended by inserting “educational instruction in*
 12 *prereading skills, premathematics skills, and language and*
 13 *through” after “low-income children through”.*

14 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

15 *Section 637 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9832)*
 16 *is amended—*

17 (1) *in paragraph (2), by inserting “(including a*
 18 *community-based organization)” after “nonprofit”;*

19 (2) *in paragraph (3)(C), by inserting “, includ-*
 20 *ing financial literacy,” after “Parent literacy”;*

21 (3) *in paragraph (17), by striking “Mariana Is-*
 22 *lands,” and all that follows and inserting “Mariana*
 23 *Islands.”; and*

24 (4) *by adding at the end the following:*

1 “(18) *The term ‘homeless child’ means a child*
2 *described in section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento*
3 *Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a(2)).*

4 “(19) *The term ‘limited English proficient’, used*
5 *with respect to a child, means a child—*

6 “(A) *who is enrolled or preparing to enroll*
7 *in a Head Start program, Early Head Start*
8 *program, or other early care and education pro-*
9 *gram;*

10 “(B)(i) *who was not born in the United*
11 *States or whose native language is a language*
12 *other than English;*

13 “(ii)(I) *who is a Native American, Alaska*
14 *Native, or a native resident of a United States*
15 *territory; and*

16 “(II) *who comes from an environment*
17 *where a language other than English has had a*
18 *significant impact on the child’s level of English*
19 *language proficiency; or*

20 “(iii) *who is migratory, whose native lan-*
21 *guage is a language other than English, and who*
22 *comes from an environment where a language*
23 *other than English is dominant; and*

1 “(C) *whose difficulty in speaking or under-*
 2 *standing the English language may be sufficient*
 3 *to deny such child—*

4 “(i) *the ability to successfully achieve*
 5 *in a classroom in which the language of in-*
 6 *struction is English; or*

7 “(ii) *the opportunity to participate*
 8 *fully in society.*

9 “(20) *The term ‘deficiency’ means—*

10 “(A) *a systemic or substantial failure of an*
 11 *agency in an area of performance that the Sec-*
 12 *retary determines involves—*

13 “(i) *a threat to the health, safety, or*
 14 *civil rights of children or staff;*

15 “(ii) *a denial to parents of the exercise*
 16 *of their full roles and responsibilities related*
 17 *to program operations;*

18 “(iii) *a failure to comply with stand-*
 19 *ards related to early childhood development*
 20 *and health services, family and community*
 21 *partnerships, or program design and man-*
 22 *agement;*

23 “(iv) *the misuse of funds under this*
 24 *subchapter;*

1 “(v) loss of legal status or financial vi-
 2 ability, loss of permits, debarment from re-
 3 ceiving Federal grants or contracts, or the
 4 improper use of Federal funds; or

5 “(vi) failure to meet any other Federal
 6 or State requirement that the agency has
 7 shown an unwillingness or inability to cor-
 8 rect, after notice from the Secretary, within
 9 the period specified;

10 “(B) systemic failure of the board of direc-
 11 tors of an agency to fully exercise its legal and
 12 fiduciary responsibilities;

13 “(C) substantial failure of an agency to
 14 meet the administrative requirements of section
 15 644(b);

16 “(D) failure of an agency to demonstrate
 17 that the agency attempted to meet the coordina-
 18 tion and collaboration requirements with entities
 19 described in section 640(a)(5)(D)(iii)(I); or

20 “(E) having an unresolved area of non-
 21 compliance.

22 “(21) The term ‘unresolved area of noncompli-
 23 ance’ means failure to correct a noncompliance item
 24 within 120 days, or within such additional time (if
 25 any) authorized by the Secretary, after receiving from

1 *the Secretary notice of such noncompliance item, pur-*
 2 *suant to section 641A(d).*

3 *“(22) The term ‘interrater reliability’ means the*
 4 *extent to which 2 different raters or observers consist-*
 5 *ently obtain the same result when using the same as-*
 6 *essment tool.”.*

7 **SEC. 4. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR HEAD START PRO-**
 8 **GRAMS.**

9 *Section 638 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9833)*
 10 *is amended by inserting “for a period of 5 years” after*
 11 *“provide financial assistance to such agency”.*

12 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

13 *Section 639 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9834)*
 14 *is amended to read as follows:*

15 **“SEC. 639. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

16 *“(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appro-*
 17 *priated for carrying out the provisions of this subchapter*
 18 *\$7,215,000,000 for fiscal year 2006, \$7,515,000,000 for fis-*
 19 *cal year 2007, \$7,815,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, and such*
 20 *sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2009 and*
 21 *2010.*

22 *“(b) SPECIFIC PROGRAMS.—From the amount appro-*
 23 *priated under subsection (a), the Secretary shall make*
 24 *available to carry out research, demonstration, and evalua-*
 25 *tion activities, including longitudinal studies under section*

1 649, not more than \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2006, and
 2 such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2007
 3 through 2010, of which not more than \$7,000,000 for each
 4 of fiscal years 2006 through 2010 shall be available to carry
 5 out impact studies under section 649(g).”.

6 **SEC. 6. ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS.**

7 (a) *ALLOTMENT*.—Section 640(a) of the Head Start
 8 Act (42 U.S.C. 9835(a)) is amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (2)—

10 (A) by striking subparagraph (A) and in-
 11 serting the following:

12 “(A) Indian Head Start programs, services for
 13 children with disabilities, and migrant and seasonal
 14 Head Start programs, except that the Secretary shall
 15 reserve for each fiscal year for use by Indian Head
 16 Start and migrant and seasonal Head Start pro-
 17 grams (referred to in this paragraph as ‘covered pro-
 18 grams’), on a nationwide basis, a sum that is the
 19 total of 4 percent of the amount appropriated under
 20 section 639 for that fiscal year (for Indian Head
 21 Start programs), and 5 percent of that appropriated
 22 amount (for migrant and seasonal Head Start pro-
 23 grams), except that—

24 “(i) if reserving the specified percentages for
 25 Indian Head Start programs and migrant and

1 *seasonal Head Start programs would reduce the*
2 *number of children served by Head Start pro-*
3 *grams, relative to the number of children served*
4 *on the date of enactment of the Head Start Im-*
5 *provements for School Readiness Act, taking into*
6 *consideration an appropriate adjustment for in-*
7 *flation, the Secretary shall reserve percentages*
8 *that approach, as closely as practicable, the spec-*
9 *ified percentages and that do not cause such a*
10 *reduction; and*

11 *“(i) notwithstanding any other provision*
12 *of this subparagraph, the Secretary shall reserve*
13 *for each fiscal year for use by Indian Head Start*
14 *programs and by migrant and seasonal Head*
15 *Start programs, on a nationwide basis, not less*
16 *than the amount that was obligated for use by*
17 *Indian Head Start programs and by migrant*
18 *and seasonal Head Start programs for the pre-*
19 *vious fiscal year;”;*

20 *(B) by striking subparagraph (C) and in-*
21 *serting the following:*

22 *“(C) training and technical assistance activities*
23 *that are sufficient to meet the needs associated with*
24 *program expansion and to foster program and man-*
25 *agement improvement activities as described in sec-*

1 *tion 648, in an amount for each fiscal year that is*
2 *equal to 2 percent of the amount appropriated under*
3 *section 639 for such fiscal year, of which—*

4 *“(i) 50 percent shall be made available to*
5 *Head Start agencies to use directly, or by estab-*
6 *lishing local or regional agreements with com-*
7 *munity experts, colleges and universities, or pri-*
8 *vate consultants, for any of the following train-*
9 *ing and technical assistance activities, includ-*
10 *ing—*

11 *“(I) activities that ensure that Head*
12 *Start programs meet or exceed the program*
13 *performance standards described in section*
14 *641A(a)(1);*

15 *“(II) activities that ensure that Head*
16 *Start programs have adequate numbers of*
17 *trained, qualified staff who have skills in*
18 *working with children and families, includ-*
19 *ing children and families who are limited*
20 *English proficient and children with dis-*
21 *abilities;*

22 *“(III) activities to pay expenses, in-*
23 *cluding direct training for expert consult-*
24 *ants working with any staff, to improve the*

1 *management and implementation of Head*
2 *Start services and systems;*

3 “(IV) activities that help ensure that
4 *Head Start programs have qualified staff*
5 *who can promote language skills and lit-*
6 *eracy growth of children and who can pro-*
7 *vide children with a variety of skills that*
8 *have been identified as predictive of later*
9 *reading achievement, school success, and*
10 *other educational skills described in section*
11 *641A;*

12 “(V) activities to improve staff quali-
13 *fications and to assist with the implementa-*
14 *tion of career development programs and to*
15 *encourage the staff to continually improve*
16 *their skills and expertise, including devel-*
17 *oping partnerships with programs that re-*
18 *cruit, train, place, and support college stu-*
19 *dents in Head Start centers to deliver an*
20 *innovative early learning program to pre-*
21 *school children;*

22 “(VI) activities that help local pro-
23 *grams ensure that the arrangement, condi-*
24 *tion, and implementation of the learning*
25 *environments in Head Start programs are*

1 *conducive to providing effective program*
2 *services to children and families;*

3 “(VII) *activities to provide training*
4 *necessary to improve the qualifications of*
5 *Head Start staff and to support staff train-*
6 *ing, child counseling, health services, and*
7 *other services necessary to address the needs*
8 *of children enrolled in Head Start pro-*
9 *grams, including children from families in*
10 *crises, children who experience chronic vio-*
11 *lence or homelessness, and children who ex-*
12 *perience substance abuse in their families,*
13 *and children under 3 years of age, where*
14 *applicable;*

15 “(VIII) *activities to provide classes or*
16 *in-service-type programs to improve or en-*
17 *hance parenting skills, job skills, adult and*
18 *family literacy, including financial lit-*
19 *eracy, or training to become a classroom*
20 *aide or bus driver in a Head Start pro-*
21 *gram;*

22 “(IX) *additional activities deemed ap-*
23 *propriate to the improvement of Head Start*
24 *agencies’ programs, as determined by the*

1 *agencies' technical assistance and training*
2 *plans; or*

3 *“(X) any other activities regarding the*
4 *use of funds as determined by the Secretary;*

5 *“(ii) 50 percent shall be made available to*
6 *the Secretary to support a regional or State sys-*
7 *tem of early childhood education training and*
8 *technical assistance, and to assist local programs*
9 *(including Indian Head Start programs and mi-*
10 *grant and seasonal Head Start programs) in*
11 *meeting the standards described in section*
12 *641A(a)(1); and*

13 *“(iii) not less than \$3,000,000 of the*
14 *amount in clause (ii) appropriated for such fis-*
15 *cal year shall be made available to carry out ac-*
16 *tivities described in section 648(d)(4);”;*

17 *(C) in subparagraph (D), by striking*
18 *“agencies;” and inserting “agencies);”; and*

19 *(D) by adding at the end of the flush matter*
20 *at the end the following: “In no case shall the*
21 *Secretary use funds reserved under this para-*
22 *graph to expand or create additional slots for*
23 *services in non-Indian and non-migrant and*
24 *seasonal Head Start programs until the 4 and 5*
25 *percent amounts specified in subparagraph (A)*

1 are reached. The Secretary shall assure that any
2 additional funding appropriated in any of fiscal
3 years 2006 through 2010 that is available to the
4 Secretary under the authority of this paragraph
5 shall be used to increase the funding levels of mi-
6 grant and seasonal Head Start programs and
7 Indian Head Start programs until such point as
8 migrant and seasonal Head Start programs are
9 receiving not less than 5 percent of the total
10 funds appropriated under section 639 and In-
11 dian Head Start programs are receiving not less
12 than 4 percent of the total funds appropriated
13 under section 639. After ensuring that the 4 and
14 5 percent amounts described in subparagraph
15 (A) and the 2 percent amount described in sub-
16 paragraph (C) have been reached and after allot-
17 ting the funds reserved under paragraph (3)(A)
18 as specified in paragraph (3)(D), the Secretary
19 may distribute any remaining funds available to
20 the Secretary under this paragraph to covered
21 programs, and if the Secretary decides to dis-
22 tribute such remaining funds available under
23 this paragraph to covered programs, the Sec-
24 retary shall distribute the funds by distributing
25 65 percent of the remainder by giving priority to

1 *grant recipients in the States serving the small-*
 2 *est percentages (as determined by the Secretary)*
 3 *of children less than 5 years of age from families*
 4 *whose income is below the poverty line, and dis-*
 5 *tributing 35 percent of the remainder on a com-*
 6 *petitive basis. The Secretary shall require each*
 7 *Head Start agency to report at the end of each*
 8 *budget year on how funds provided to carry out*
 9 *subparagraph (C)(i) were used.”;*

10 *(2) in paragraph (3)—*

11 *(A) in subparagraph (A)(i)(I)—*

12 *(i) by striking “60 percent of such ex-*
 13 *cess amount for fiscal year 1999” and all*
 14 *that follows through “2002, and”; and*

15 *(ii) by inserting before the semicolon*
 16 *the following: “, 30 percent of such excess*
 17 *amount for fiscal year 2006, and 40 percent*
 18 *of such excess amount for each of fiscal*
 19 *years 2007 through 2010”;*

20 *(B) in subparagraph (B)—*

21 *(i) in clause (i), by striking “perform-*
 22 *ance standards” and all that follows and*
 23 *inserting “standards and measures pursu-*
 24 *ant to section 641A.”;*

1 (ii) by striking clause (ii) and insert-
2 ing the following:

3 “(ii) Ensuring that such programs have ade-
4 quate numbers of qualified staff, and that such staff
5 is furnished adequate training, including training to
6 promote the development of language skills,
7 premathematics skills, and prereading in young chil-
8 dren and in working with limited English proficient
9 children, children in foster care, children referred by
10 child welfare services, and children with disabilities,
11 when appropriate.”;

12 (iii) by striking clause (iii) and insert-
13 ing the following:

14 “(iii) Developing and financing the salary scales
15 and benefits standards under section 644(a) and sec-
16 tion 653, in order to ensure that salary levels and
17 benefits are adequate to attract and retain qualified
18 staff for such programs.”;

19 (iv) by striking clause (iv) and insert-
20 ing the following:

21 “(iv) Using salary increases to—

22 “(I) assist with the implementation of qual-
23 ity programs and improve staff qualifications;

24 “(II) ensure that staff can promote the lan-
25 guage skills and literacy growth of children and

1 *can provide children with a variety of skills that*
 2 *have been identified, through scientifically based*
 3 *early reading research, as predictive of later*
 4 *reading achievement, as well as additional skills*
 5 *identified in section 641A(a)(1)(B)(ii); and*

6 *“(III) encourage the staff to continually im-*
 7 *prove their skills and expertise by informing the*
 8 *staff of the availability of Federal and State in-*
 9 *centive and loan forgiveness programs for profes-*
 10 *sional development.”;*

11 *(v) in clause (v), by inserting “, in-*
 12 *cluding collaborations to increase program*
 13 *participation by underserved populations of*
 14 *eligible children” before the period; and*

15 *(vi) by striking clauses (vii) and (viii)*
 16 *and inserting the following:*

17 *“(vii) Providing assistance to complete postsec-*
 18 *ondary coursework including scholarships or other fi-*
 19 *nancial incentives, such as differential and merit*
 20 *pay, to enable Head Start teachers to improve com-*
 21 *petencies and the resulting child outcomes.*

22 *“(viii) Promoting the regular attendance and*
 23 *stability of all Head Start children with particular*
 24 *attention to highly mobile children, including chil-*
 25 *dren from migrant and seasonal farmworking fami-*

1 *lies (where appropriate), homeless children, and chil-*
 2 *dren in foster care.*

3 *“(ix) Making such other improvements in the*
 4 *quality of such programs as the Secretary may des-*
 5 *ignate.”;*

6 *(C) in subparagraph (C)—*

7 *(i) in clause (i)(I), by striking the last*
 8 *sentence and inserting “Salary increases, in*
 9 *excess of cost-of-living allowances, provided*
 10 *with such funds shall be subject to the spe-*
 11 *cific standards governing salaries and sal-*
 12 *ary increases established pursuant to section*
 13 *644(a).”;*

14 *(ii) in clause (ii)—*

15 *(I) in the matter preceding sub-*
 16 *clause (I), by striking “education per-*
 17 *formance” and inserting “additional*
 18 *educational”;*

19 *(II) in subclause (I), by inserting*
 20 *“, prereading,” after “language”;*

21 *(III) by striking subclause (II)*
 22 *and inserting the following:*

23 *“(II) to help limited English proficient chil-*
 24 *dren attain the knowledge, skills, and develop-*
 25 *ment specified in section 641A(a)(1)(B)(ii) and*

1 *to promote the acquisition of the English lan-*
 2 *guage by such children and families;”;* and

3 *(IV) by striking subclause (IV)*

4 *and inserting the following:*

5 *“(IV) to provide education and training*
 6 *necessary to improve the qualifications of Head*
 7 *Start staff, particularly assistance to enable*
 8 *more instructors to be fully competent and to*
 9 *meet the degree requirements under section*
 10 *648A(a)(2)(A), and to support staff training,*
 11 *child counseling, and other services necessary to*
 12 *address the challenges of children participating*
 13 *in Head Start programs, including children*
 14 *from immigrant, refugee, and asylee families,*
 15 *children from families in crisis, homeless chil-*
 16 *dren, children in foster care, children referred to*
 17 *Head Start programs by child welfare agencies,*
 18 *and children who are exposed to chronic violence*
 19 *or substance abuse.”;*

20 *(iii) in clause (iii), by inserting “,*
 21 *educational staff who have the qualifica-*
 22 *tions described in section 648A(a),” after*
 23 *“ratio”;*

1 (iv) in clause (v), by striking “pro-
 2 grams, including” and all that follows and
 3 inserting “programs.”;

4 (v) by redesignating clause (vi) as
 5 clause (x); and

6 (vi) by inserting after clause (v) the
 7 following:

8 “(vi) To conduct outreach to homeless families in
 9 an effort to increase the program participation of eli-
 10 gible homeless children.

11 “(vii) To conduct outreach to migrant and sea-
 12 sonal farmworking families and families with limited
 13 English proficient children.

14 “(viii) To partner with institutions of higher
 15 education and nonprofit organizations, including
 16 community-based organizations, that recruit, train,
 17 place, and support college students to serve as mentors
 18 and reading coaches to preschool children in Head
 19 Start programs.

20 “(ix) To upgrade the qualifications and skills of
 21 educational personnel to meet the professional stand-
 22 ards described in section 648A(a)(1), including cer-
 23 tification and licensure as bilingual education teach-
 24 ers and for other educational personnel who serve lim-
 25 ited English proficient students.”;

1 (3) in paragraph (4)—

2 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking
3 “1998” and inserting “2005”; and

4 (B) by striking subparagraph (B) and in-
5 serting the following:

6 “(B) any amount available after all allotments
7 are made under subparagraph (A) for such fiscal year
8 shall be distributed as follows:

9 “(i) Each State shall receive an amount
10 sufficient to serve the same number of children in
11 Head Start programs in each State as were
12 served on the date of enactment of the Head
13 Start Improvements for School Readiness Act,
14 taking into consideration an appropriate adjust-
15 ment for inflation.

16 “(ii) After ensuring that each State has re-
17 ceived the amount described in clause (i) and
18 after allotting the funds reserved under para-
19 graph (3)(A) as specified in paragraph (3)(D),
20 the Secretary shall distribute the remaining bal-
21 ance, by—

22 “(I) distributing 65 percent of the bal-
23 ance by giving priority to States serving the
24 smallest percentages (as determined by the
25 Secretary) of children less than 5 years of

1 age from families whose income is below the
2 poverty line; and

3 “(II) distributing 35 percent of the bal-
4 ance on a competitive basis.”;

5 (4) in paragraph (5)—

6 (A) by redesignating subparagraphs (E)
7 and (F) as subparagraphs (F) and (G), respec-
8 tively; and

9 (B) by striking subparagraphs (B), (C), and
10 (D) and inserting the following:

11 “(B)(i) From the reserved sums, the Secretary shall
12 award a collaboration grant to each State to facilitate col-
13 laboration between Head Start agencies and entities (in-
14 cluding the State) that carry out other activities designed
15 to benefit low-income families and children from birth to
16 school entry.

17 “(ii) Grants described in clause (i) shall be used to—

18 “(I) encourage Head Start agencies to collabo-
19 rate with entities involved in State and local plan-
20 ning processes to better meet the needs of low-income
21 families and children from birth to school entry;

22 “(II) encourage Head Start agencies to coordi-
23 nate activities with the State agency responsible for
24 administering the State program carried out under
25 the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of

1 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858 *et seq.*) and entities providing
2 resources and referral services in the State to make
3 full-working-day and full calendar year services
4 available to children;

5 “(III) promote alignment of Head Start services
6 with State early learning and school readiness goals
7 and standards, including the Head Start Child Out-
8 comes Framework;

9 “(IV) promote better linkages between Head
10 Start agencies and other child and family agencies,
11 including agencies that provide health, mental health,
12 or family services, or other child or family supportive
13 services; and

14 “(V) carry out the activities of the State Director
15 of Head Start Collaboration authorized in subpara-
16 graph (D).

17 “(C) In order to improve coordination and delivery
18 of early education services to children in the State, a State
19 that receives a grant under subparagraph (B) shall—

20 “(i) appoint an individual to serve as the State
21 Director of Head Start Collaboration;

22 “(ii) ensure that the State Director of Head
23 Start Collaboration holds a position with sufficient
24 authority and access to ensure that the collaboration

1 *described in subparagraph (B) is effective and in-*
 2 *volves a range of State agencies; and*

3 *“(iii) involve the State Head Start Association*
 4 *in the selection of the Director and involve the Asso-*
 5 *ciation in determinations relating to the ongoing di-*
 6 *rection of the collaboration office.*

7 *“(D) The State Director of Head Start Collaboration,*
 8 *after consultation with the State Advisory Council described*
 9 *in subparagraph (E), shall—*

10 *“(i) not later than 1 year after the date of enact-*
 11 *ment of the Head Start Improvements for School*
 12 *Readiness Act, conduct an assessment that—*

13 *“(I) addresses the needs of Head Start agen-*
 14 *cies in the State with respect to collaborating, co-*
 15 *ordinating services, and implementing State*
 16 *early learning and school readiness goals and*
 17 *standards to better serve children enrolled in*
 18 *Head Start programs in the State;*

19 *“(II) shall be updated on an annual basis;*
 20 *and*

21 *“(III) shall be made available to the general*
 22 *public within the State;*

23 *“(ii) assess the availability of high quality pre-*
 24 *kindergarten services for low-income children in the*
 25 *State;*

1 “(iii) develop a strategic plan that is based on
2 the assessment described in clause (i) that will—

3 “(I) enhance collaboration and coordination
4 of Head Start services with other entities pro-
5 viding early childhood programs and services
6 (such as child care and services offered by muse-
7 ums), health care, mental health care, welfare,
8 child protective services, education and commu-
9 nity service activities, family literacy services,
10 reading readiness programs (including such pro-
11 grams offered by public and school libraries),
12 services relating to children with disabilities,
13 other early childhood programs and services for
14 limited English proficient children and homeless
15 children, and services provided for children in
16 foster care and children referred to Head Start
17 programs by child welfare agencies, including
18 agencies and State officials responsible for such
19 services;

20 “(II) assist Head Start agencies to develop
21 a plan for the provision of full-working-day, full
22 calendar year services for children enrolled in
23 Head Start programs who need such care;

24 “(III) assist Head Start agencies to align
25 services with State early learning and school

1 *readiness goals and standards and to facilitate*
2 *collaborative efforts to develop local school readi-*
3 *ness standards; and*

4 *“(IV) enable agencies in the State to better*
5 *coordinate professional development opportuni-*
6 *ties for Head Start staff, such as by—*

7 *“(aa) assisting 2- and 4-year public*
8 *and private institutions of higher education*
9 *to develop articulation agreements;*

10 *“(bb) awarding grants to institutions*
11 *of higher education to develop model early*
12 *childhood education programs, including*
13 *practica or internships for students to*
14 *spend time in a Head Start or prekind-*
15 *ergarten program;*

16 *“(cc) working with local Head Start*
17 *agencies to meet the degree requirements de-*
18 *scribed in section 648A(a)(2)(A), including*
19 *providing distance learning opportunities*
20 *for Head Start staff, where needed to make*
21 *higher education more accessible to Head*
22 *Start staff; and*

23 *“(dd) enabling the State Head Start*
24 *agencies to better coordinate outreach to eli-*
25 *gible families;*

1 “(iv) promote partnerships between Head Start
2 agencies, State governments, and the private sector to
3 help ensure that preschool children from low-income
4 families are receiving comprehensive services to pre-
5 pare the children to enter school ready to learn;

6 “(v) consult with the chief State school officer,
7 local educational agencies, and providers of early
8 childhood education and care to conduct unified plan-
9 ning regarding early care and education services at
10 both the State and local levels, including undertaking
11 collaborative efforts to develop and make improve-
12 ments in school readiness standards;

13 “(vi) promote partnerships (such as the partner-
14 ships involved with the Free to Grow initiative) be-
15 tween Head Start agencies, schools, law enforcement,
16 and substance abuse and mental health treatment
17 agencies to strengthen family and community envi-
18 ronments and to reduce the impact on child develop-
19 ment of substance abuse, child abuse, domestic vio-
20 lence, and other high risk behaviors that compromise
21 healthy development;

22 “(vii) promote partnerships between Head Start
23 agencies and other organizations in order to enhance
24 the Head Start curriculum, including partnerships to
25 promote inclusion of more books in Head Start class-

1 rooms and partnerships to promote coordination of
 2 activities with the Ready-to-Learn Television pro-
 3 gram carried out under subpart 3 of part D of title
 4 II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act
 5 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6775 et seq.); and

6 “(viii) identify other resources and organizations
 7 (both public and private) for the provision of in-kind
 8 services to Head Start agencies in the State.

9 “(E)(i) The Governor of the State shall designate or
 10 establish a council to serve as the State advisory council
 11 on collaboration on early care and education activities for
 12 children from birth to school entry (in this subchapter re-
 13 ferred to as the ‘State Advisory Council’).

14 “(ii) The Governor may designate an existing entity
 15 to serve as the State Advisory Council, if the entity includes
 16 representatives described in subclauses (I) through (XXIV)
 17 of clause (iii).

18 “(iii) Members of the State Advisory Council shall in-
 19 clude, to the maximum extent possible—

20 “(I) the State Director of Head Start Collabora-
 21 tion;

22 “(II) a representative of the appropriate regional
 23 office of the Administration for Children and Fami-
 24 lies;

1 “(III) a representative of the State educational
2 agency and local educational agencies;

3 “(IV) a representative of institutions of higher
4 education;

5 “(V) a representative (or representatives) of the
6 State agency (or agencies) responsible for health or
7 mental health care;

8 “(VI) a representative of the State agency re-
9 sponsible for teacher professional standards, certifi-
10 cation, and licensing, including prekindergarten
11 teacher professional standards, certification stand-
12 ards, certification, and licensing, where applicable;

13 “(VII) a representative of the State agency re-
14 sponsible for child care;

15 “(VIII) early childhood education professionals,
16 including professionals with expertise in second lan-
17 guage acquisition and instructional strategies in
18 teaching limited English proficient children;

19 “(IX) kindergarten teachers and teachers in
20 grades 1 through 3;

21 “(X) health care professionals;

22 “(XI) child development specialists, including
23 specialists in prenatal, infant, and toddler develop-
24 ment;

1 “(XII) a representative of the State agency re-
2 sponsible for assisting children with developmental
3 disabilities;

4 “(XIII) a representative of the State agency re-
5 sponsible for programs under part C of the Individ-
6 uals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1431
7 et seq.);

8 “(XIV) a representative of the State interagency
9 coordinating councils established under section 641 of
10 the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20
11 U.S.C. 1441);

12 “(XV) a representative of the State Head Start
13 Association (where appropriate), and other represent-
14 atives of Head Start programs in the State;

15 “(XVI) a representative of the State network of
16 child care resource and referral agencies;

17 “(XVII) a representative of community-based or-
18 ganizations;

19 “(XVIII) a representative of State and local pro-
20 viders of early childhood education and child care;

21 “(XIX) a representative of migrant and seasonal
22 Head Start programs and Indian Head Start pro-
23 grams (where appropriate);

24 “(XX) parents;

25 “(XXI) religious and business leaders;

1 “(XXII) the head of the State library adminis-
2 trative agency;

3 “(XXIII) representatives of State and local orga-
4 nizations and other entities providing professional de-
5 velopment to early care and education providers; and

6 “(XXIV) a representative of other entities deter-
7 mined to be relevant by the chief executive officer of
8 the State.

9 “(iv)(I) The State Advisory Council shall be respon-
10 sible for, in addition to responsibilities assigned to the
11 council by the chief executive officer of the State—

12 “(aa) conducting a periodic statewide needs as-
13 sessment concerning early care and education pro-
14 grams for children from birth to school entry;

15 “(bb) identifying barriers to, and opportunities
16 for, collaboration and coordination between entities
17 carrying out Federal and State child development,
18 child care, and early childhood education programs;

19 “(cc) developing recommendations regarding
20 means of establishing a unified data collection system
21 for early care and education programs throughout the
22 State;

23 “(dd) developing a statewide professional devel-
24 opment and career ladder plan for early care and
25 education in the State; and

1 “(ee) reviewing and approving the strategic
 2 plan, regarding collaborating and coordinating serv-
 3 ices to better serve children enrolled in Head Start
 4 programs, developed by the State Director of Head
 5 Start Collaboration under subparagraph (D)(iii).

6 “(II) The State Advisory Council shall hold public
 7 hearings and provide an opportunity for public comment
 8 on the needs assessment and recommendations described in
 9 subclause (I). The State Advisory Council shall submit a
 10 statewide strategic report containing the needs assessment
 11 and recommendations described in subclause (I) to the State
 12 Director of Head Start Collaboration and the chief executive
 13 officer of the State.

14 “(III) After submission of a statewide strategic report
 15 under subclause (II), the State Advisory Council shall meet
 16 periodically to review any implementation of the rec-
 17 ommendations in such report and any changes in State and
 18 local needs.”; and

19 (5) in paragraph (6)—

20 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “7.5
 21 percent” and all that follows and inserting “11
 22 percent for fiscal year 2006, 13 percent for fiscal
 23 year 2007, 15 percent for fiscal year 2008, 17
 24 percent for fiscal year 2009, and 18 percent for

1 *fiscal year 2010, of the amount appropriated*
 2 *pursuant to section 639(a).”;*

3 *(B) by striking subparagraph (B);*

4 *(C) in subparagraph (C)(i), by striking “re-*
 5 *quired to be”; and*

6 *(D) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as*
 7 *subparagraph (B).*

8 **(b) SERVICE DELIVERY MODELS.**—*Section 640(f) of*
 9 *the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9835(f)) is amended by strik-*
 10 *ing “needs.” and inserting “needs, including—*

11 *“(1) models that leverage the capacity and capa-*
 12 *bilities of the delivery system of early childhood edu-*
 13 *cation and child care; and*

14 *“(2) procedures to provide for the conversion of*
 15 *part-day programs to full-day programs or part-day*
 16 *slots to full-day slots.”.*

17 **(c) ADDITIONAL FUNDS.**—*Section 640(g)(2) of the*
 18 *Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9835(g)(2)) is amended—*

19 *(1) by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting*
 20 *the following:*

21 *“(C) the extent to which the applicant has un-*
 22 *dertaken communitywide strategic planning and*
 23 *needs assessments involving other community organi-*
 24 *zations and Federal, State, and local public agencies*
 25 *serving children and families (including organiza-*

1 *tions and agencies providing family support services*
 2 *and protective services to children and families and*
 3 *organizations serving families in whose homes*
 4 *English is not the language customarily spoken), and*
 5 *individuals, organizations, and public entities serving*
 6 *children with disabilities, children in foster care, and*
 7 *homeless children including the local educational*
 8 *agency liaison designated under section*
 9 *722(g)(1)(J)(ii) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless As-*
 10 *sistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii));”;*

11 *(2) in subparagraph (D), by striking “other*
 12 *local” and inserting “the State and local”;*

13 *(3) in subparagraph (E), by inserting “would*
 14 *like to participate but” after “community who”;*

15 *(4) in subparagraph (G), by inserting “leverage*
 16 *the existing delivery systems of such services and”*
 17 *after “manner that will”; and*

18 *(5) in subparagraph (H), by inserting “, includ-*
 19 *ing the local educational agency liaison designated*
 20 *under section 722(g)(1)(J)(ii) of the McKinney-Vento*
 21 *Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.*
 22 *11432(g)(1)(J)(ii)),” after “community involved”.*

23 *(d) REGULATIONS.—Section 640(i) of the Head Start*
 24 *Act (42 U.S.C. 9835(i)) is amended by inserting “and re-*
 25 *quirements to ensure the appropriate supervision and back-*

1 *ground checks of individuals with whom the agencies con-*
 2 *tract to transport those children” before the period.*

3 *(e) MIGRANT AND SEASONAL HEAD START PRO-*
 4 *GRAMS.—Section 640(l) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.*
 5 *9835(l)) is amended by striking paragraph (3) and insert-*
 6 *ing the following:*

7 *“(3) In carrying out this subchapter, the Secretary*
 8 *shall continue the administrative arrangement at the na-*
 9 *tional or regional level for meeting the needs of Indian chil-*
 10 *dren and children of migrant and seasonal farmworkers*
 11 *and shall ensure—*

12 *“(A) that appropriate funding is provided to*
 13 *meet such needs, including training and technical as-*
 14 *sistance provided by staff with knowledge of and expe-*
 15 *rience in working with such populations; and*

16 *“(B) the appointment of a national migrant and*
 17 *seasonal Head Start program collaboration director*
 18 *and a national Indian Head Start collaboration di-*
 19 *rector.*

20 *“(4)(A) For the purposes of paragraph (3), the Sec-*
 21 *retary shall conduct an annual consultation in each affected*
 22 *Head Start region, with tribal governments operating Head*
 23 *Start and Early Head Start programs.*

24 *“(B) The consultations shall be for the purpose of better*
 25 *meeting the needs of American Indian and Alaska Native*

1 *children and families pertinent to subsections (a), (b), and*
 2 *(c) of section 641, taking into consideration funding alloca-*
 3 *tions, distribution formulas, and other issues affecting the*
 4 *delivery of Head Start services within tribal communities.*

5 “(C) *The Secretary shall publish a notification of the*
 6 *consultations in the Federal Register prior to conducting*
 7 *the consultations.*

8 “(D) *A detailed report of each consultation shall be*
 9 *prepared and made available, on a timely basis, to all trib-*
 10 *al governments receiving funds under this subchapter.”.*

11 (f) *HOMELESS CHILDREN.—Section 640 of the Head*
 12 *Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9835) is amended by adding at the*
 13 *end the following:*

14 “(m) *ENROLLMENT OF HOMELESS CHILDREN.—The*
 15 *Secretary shall issue regulations to remove barriers to the*
 16 *enrollment and participation of homeless children in Head*
 17 *Start programs. Such regulations shall require Head Start*
 18 *agencies to—*

19 “(1) *implement policies and procedures to ensure*
 20 *that homeless children are identified and receive ap-*
 21 *propriate priority for enrollment;*

22 “(2) *allow homeless children to apply to, enroll*
 23 *in, and attend Head Start programs while required*
 24 *documents, such as proof of residency, proof of immu-*
 25 *nization, and other medical records, birth certificates,*

1 and other documents, are obtained within a reason-
2 able timeframe; and

3 “(3) coordinate individual Head Start programs
4 with efforts to implement subtitle B of title VII of the
5 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.
6 11431 et seq.).

7 “(n) *RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.*—Nothing in this sub-
8 chapter shall be construed to require a State to establish
9 a program of early education for children in the State, to
10 require any child to participate in a program of early edu-
11 cation in order to attend preschool, or to participate in any
12 initial screening prior to participation in such program,
13 except as provided under section 612(a)(3) of the Individ-
14 uals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C.
15 1412(a)(3)) and consistent with section 614(a)(1)(C) of
16 such Act (20 U.S.C. 1414(a)(1)(C)).

17 “(o) *MATERIALS.*—All curricula funded under this
18 subchapter shall be scientifically based, and develop-
19 mentally and linguistically based (to the extent prac-
20 ticable), and age appropriate. Parents shall have the oppor-
21 tunity to examine any such curricula or instructional ma-
22 terials funded under this subchapter.”.

23 **SEC. 7. DESIGNATION OF HEAD START AGENCIES.**

24 Section 641 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9836)
25 is amended to read as follows:

1 **“SEC. 641. DESIGNATION OF HEAD START AGENCIES.**

2 “(a) *DESIGNATION.*—

3 “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary is authorized*
 4 *to designate as a Head Start agency any local public*
 5 *or private nonprofit or for-profit agency, within a*
 6 *community, including a community-based organiza-*
 7 *tion that—*

8 “(A) *has power and authority to carry out*
 9 *the purpose of this subchapter and perform the*
 10 *functions set forth in section 642 within a com-*
 11 *munity; and*

12 “(B) *is determined to be capable of plan-*
 13 *ning, conducting, administering, and evaluating,*
 14 *either directly or by other arrangements, a Head*
 15 *Start program.*

16 “(2) *REQUIRED GOALS FOR DESIGNATION.*—*In*
 17 *order to be designated as a Head Start agency, an en-*
 18 *tity described in paragraph (1) shall establish pro-*
 19 *gram goals for improving the school readiness of chil-*
 20 *dren participating in a program under this sub-*
 21 *chapter, including goals for meeting the performance*
 22 *standards and additional educational standards de-*
 23 *scribed in section 641A and shall establish results-*
 24 *based school readiness goals that are aligned with*
 25 *Head Start Child Outcomes Framework, State early*

1 *learning standards (if applicable), and requirements*
 2 *and expectations for local public schools.*

3 “(3) *ELIGIBILITY FOR SUBSEQUENT GRANTS.—*
 4 *In order to receive a grant under this subchapter sub-*
 5 *sequent to the initial grant provided following the*
 6 *date of enactment of the Head Start Improvements*
 7 *for School Readiness Act, an entity described in para-*
 8 *graph (1) shall demonstrate that the entity has met*
 9 *or is making progress toward meeting the goals de-*
 10 *scribed in paragraph (2).*

11 “(4) *GOVERNING BODY.—*

12 “(A) *IN GENERAL.—*

13 “(i) *ENSURING HIGH QUALITY PRO-*
 14 *GRAMS.—In order to be designated as a*
 15 *Head Start agency, an entity described in*
 16 *paragraph (1) shall have a governing*
 17 *body—*

18 “(I) *with legal and fiscal respon-*
 19 *sibility for administering and over-*
 20 *seeing programs under this subchapter;*
 21 *and*

22 “(II) *that fully participates in the*
 23 *development, planning, implementa-*
 24 *tion, and evaluation of the programs to*

1 *ensure the operation of programs of*
 2 *high quality.*

3 “(ii) *ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH*
 4 *LAWS.—The governing body shall be respon-*
 5 *sible for ensuring compliance with Federal*
 6 *laws and regulations, including the per-*
 7 *formance standards described in section*
 8 *641A, as well as applicable State, Tribal,*
 9 *and local laws and regulations, including*
 10 *laws defining the nature and operations of*
 11 *the governing body.*

12 “(B) *COMPOSITION OF GOVERNING BODY.—*

13 “(i) *IN GENERAL.—The governing body*
 14 *shall be composed as follows:*

15 “(I) *Not less than 1 member of the*
 16 *governing body shall have a back-*
 17 *ground in fiscal management.*

18 “(II) *Not less than 1 member of*
 19 *the governing body shall have a back-*
 20 *ground in early childhood development.*

21 “(III) *Membership that reflects the*
 22 *community to be served.*

23 “(ii) *CONSULTANTS.—In the case that*
 24 *persons described in clause (i) are not*
 25 *available to serve as members of the gov-*

erning body, the governing body shall make use of consultants in the areas described in clause (i) to work directly with the governing body.

“(iii) *CONFLICT OF INTEREST.*—Members of the governing body shall—

“(I) not have a conflict of interest with the Head Start agency or delegate agencies; and

“(II) not receive compensation for service to the Head Start agency.

“(C) *RESPONSIBILITIES.*—

“(i) *IN GENERAL.*—The governing body shall be responsible, in consultation with the policy council or the policy committee of the Head Start agency, for—

“(I) the selection of delegate agencies and such agencies’ service areas;

“(II) establishing criteria for defining recruitment, selection, and enrollment priorities;

“(III) all funding applications and amendments to funding applications for programs under this subchapter;

1 “(IV) *the annual self-assessment*
2 *of the Head Start agency or delegate*
3 *agency’s progress in carrying out the*
4 *programmatic and fiscal intent of such*
5 *agency’s grant application, including*
6 *planning or other actions that may re-*
7 *sult from the review of the annual*
8 *audit, self-assessment, and findings*
9 *from the Federal monitoring review;*

10 “(V) *providing guidance for the*
11 *composition of the policy council or the*
12 *policy committee of the Head Start*
13 *agency;*

14 “(VI) *developing procedures for*
15 *how members of the policy council or*
16 *the policy committee of the Head Start*
17 *agency are selected, including proce-*
18 *dures for how parents of children cur-*
19 *rently participating in a Head Start*
20 *or Early Head Start program are se-*
21 *lected to serve on the policy council or*
22 *the policy committee of the Head Start*
23 *agency;*

24 “(VII) *audits, accounting, and re-*
25 *porting;*

1 “(VIII) *personnel policies and*
 2 *procedures including decisions with re-*
 3 *gard to salary scales (and changes*
 4 *made to the scale), salaries of the Exec-*
 5 *utive Director, Head Start Director,*
 6 *the Director of Human Resources, and*
 7 *the Chief Fiscal Officer, and decisions*
 8 *to hire and terminate program staff;*
 9 *and*

10 “(IX) *the community assessment,*
 11 *including any updates to such assess-*
 12 *ment.*

13 “(ii) *CONDUCT OF RESPONSIBIL-*
 14 *ITIES.—The governing body shall—*

15 “(I) *develop an internal control*
 16 *structure to facilitate these responsibil-*
 17 *ities in order to—*

18 “(aa) *safeguard Federal*
 19 *funds;*

20 “(bb) *comply with laws and*
 21 *regulations that have an impact*
 22 *on financial statements;*

23 “(cc) *detect or prevent non-*
 24 *compliance with this subchapter;*
 25 *and*

1 “(dd) receive audit reports
2 and direct and monitor staff im-
3 plementation of corrective actions;
4 and

5 “(II) develop procedures to facili-
6 tate meaningful consultation and col-
7 laboration and solicit input from the
8 policy council or the policy committee
9 of the Head Start agency regarding
10 matters of recruitment, enrollment,
11 funding applications, and pro-
12 grammatic design, including processes
13 to resolve internal disputes.

14 “(D) RECEIPT OF INFORMATION.—To facili-
15 tate oversight and Head Start agency account-
16 ability, the governing body shall receive regular
17 and accurate information about program plan-
18 ning, policies, and Head Start agency oper-
19 ations, including—

20 “(i) monthly financial statements (in-
21 cluding detailed credit card account expend-
22 itures for any employee with a Head Start
23 agency credit card or who seeks reimburse-
24 ment for charged expenses);

1 “(ii) monthly program information
2 summaries;

3 “(iii) program enrollment reports, in-
4 cluding attendance reports for children
5 whose care is partially subsidized by an-
6 other public agency;

7 “(iv) monthly report of meals and
8 snacks through programs of the Department
9 of Agriculture;

10 “(v) the annual financial audit;

11 “(vi) the annual self-assessment, in-
12 cluding any findings related to the annual
13 self-assessment;

14 “(vii) the community assessment of the
15 Head Start agency’s service area and any
16 applicable updates; and

17 “(viii) the program information re-
18 ports.

19 “(E) TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSIST-
20 ANCE.—Appropriate training and technical as-
21 sistance shall be provided to the members of the
22 governing body to ensure that the members un-
23 derstand the information the members receive
24 and can effectively oversee and participate in the
25 programs of the Head Start agency.

1 “(b) *COMMUNITIES.*—For purposes of this subchapter,
 2 a community may be a city, county, or multicounty or multi-
 3 county unit within a State, an Indian reservation (includ-
 4 ing Indians in any off-reservation area designated by an
 5 appropriate tribal government in consultation with the Sec-
 6 retary), or a neighborhood or other area (irrespective of
 7 boundaries or political subdivisions) that provides a suit-
 8 able organizational base and possesses the commonality of
 9 interest needed to operate a Head Start program.

10 “(c) *PRIORITY IN DESIGNATION.*—In administering
 11 the provisions of this section, the Secretary shall, in con-
 12 sultation with the chief executive officer of the State in-
 13 volved, give priority in the designation (including redesign-
 14 ation) of Head Start agencies to any Head Start agency
 15 or delegate agency that is high performing, as determined
 16 by meeting each of the following criterion:

17 “(1) *Is receiving assistance under this sub-*
 18 *chapter.*

19 “(2) *Meets or exceeds program and financial*
 20 *management requirements or standards described in*
 21 *section 641A(a)(1).*

22 “(3) *Has no unresolved deficiencies and has not*
 23 *had findings of deficiencies during the last triennial*
 24 *review under section 641A(c).*

1 “(4) *Can demonstrate, through agreements such*
 2 *as memoranda of understanding, active collaboration*
 3 *with the State or local community in the provision of*
 4 *services for children (such as the provision of extended*
 5 *day services, education, professional development and*
 6 *training for staff, and other types of cooperative en-*
 7 *deavors).*

8 “(d) *DESIGNATION WHEN ENTITY HAS PRIORITY.—*
 9 *If no entity in a community is entitled to the priority speci-*
 10 *fied in subsection (c), the Secretary shall, after conducting*
 11 *an open competition, designate a Head Start agency from*
 12 *among qualified applicants in such community.*

13 “(e) *RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Notwithstanding any*
 14 *other provision of law, under no condition may a non-In-*
 15 *dian Head Start agency receive a grant to carry out an*
 16 *Indian Head Start program.*

17 “(f) *EFFECTIVENESS.—In selecting from among quali-*
 18 *fied applicants for designation as a Head Start agency, the*
 19 *Secretary shall consider the effectiveness of each such appli-*
 20 *cant to provide Head Start services, based on—*

21 “(1) *any past performance of such applicant in*
 22 *providing services comparable to Head Start services,*
 23 *including how effectively such applicant provided*
 24 *such comparable services;*

1 “(2) the plan of such applicant to provide com-
 2 prehensive health, educational, nutritional, social,
 3 and other services needed to aid participating chil-
 4 dren in attaining their full potential, and to prepare
 5 children to succeed in school;

6 “(3) the capacity of such applicant to serve eligi-
 7 ble children with programs that use scientifically
 8 based research that promote school readiness of chil-
 9 dren participating in the program;

10 “(4) the plan of such applicant to meet stand-
 11 ards set forth in section 641A(a)(1), with particular
 12 attention to the standards set forth in subparagraphs
 13 (A) and (B) of such section;

14 “(5) the plan of such applicant to coordinate the
 15 Head Start program the applicant proposes to carry
 16 out with other preschool programs, including—

17 “(A) the Early Reading First and Even
 18 Start programs under subparts 2 and 3 of part
 19 B of title I of the Elementary and Secondary
 20 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6371 et seq.,
 21 6381 et seq.);

22 “(B) programs under section 619 and part
 23 C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education
 24 Act (20 U.S.C. 1419, 1431 et seq.);

25 “(C) State prekindergarten programs;

1 “(D) child care programs;

2 “(E) the educational programs that the chil-
3 dren in the Head Start program involved will
4 enter at the age of compulsory school attendance;
5 and

6 “(F) reading readiness programs such as
7 those conducted by public and school libraries;

8 “(6) the plan of such applicant to coordinate the
9 Head Start program that the applicant proposes to
10 carry out with public and private entities who are
11 willing to commit resources to assist the Head Start
12 program in meeting its program needs;

13 “(7) the plan of such applicant to collaborate
14 with a local library, where available, that is inter-
15 ested in that collaboration, to—

16 “(A) develop innovative programs to excite
17 children about the world of books, such as pro-
18 grams that involve—

19 “(i) taking children to the library for
20 a story hour;

21 “(ii) promoting the use of library
22 cards;

23 “(iii) developing a lending library or
24 using a mobile library van; and

1 “(iv) providing fresh books in the Head

2 Start classroom on a regular basis;

3 “(B) assist in literacy training for Head

4 Start teachers; and

5 “(C) support parents and other caregivers

6 in literacy efforts;

7 “(8) the plan of such applicant—

8 “(A) to seek the involvement of parents of

9 participating children in activities (at home and

10 in the center involved where practicable) de-

11 signed to help such parents become full partners

12 in the education of their children;

13 “(B) to afford such parents the opportunity

14 to participate in the development and overall

15 conduct of the program at the local level, includ-

16 ing through providing transportation costs;

17 “(C) to offer (directly or through referral to

18 local entities, such as entities carrying out Even

19 Start programs under subpart 3 of part B of

20 title I of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-

21 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6381 et seq.), pub-

22 lic and school libraries, and entities carrying out

23 family support programs) to such parents—

24 “(i) family literacy services; and

25 “(ii) parenting skills training;

1 “(D) to offer to parents of participating
 2 children substance abuse counseling (either di-
 3 rectly or through referral to local entities), in-
 4 cluding information on the effect of drug expo-
 5 sure on infants and fetal alcohol syndrome;

6 “(E) at the option of such applicant, to
 7 offer (directly or through referral to local enti-
 8 ties) to such parents—

9 “(i) training in basic child develop-
 10 ment (including cognitive development);

11 “(ii) assistance in developing literacy
 12 and communication skills;

13 “(iii) opportunities to share experi-
 14 ences with other parents (including parent
 15 mentor relationships);

16 “(iv) regular in-home visitation; or

17 “(v) any other activity designed to help
 18 such parents become full partners in the
 19 education of their children;

20 “(F) to provide, with respect to each par-
 21 ticipating family, a family needs assessment that
 22 includes consultation with such parents about
 23 the benefits of parent involvement and about the
 24 activities described in subparagraphs (C), (D),
 25 and (E) in which such parents may choose to be-

1 *come involved (taking into consideration their*
 2 *specific family needs, work schedules, and other*
 3 *responsibilities); and*

4 “(G) *to extend outreach to fathers, in ap-*
 5 *propriate cases, in order to strengthen the role of*
 6 *fathers in families, in the education of their*
 7 *young children, and in the Head Start program,*
 8 *by working directly with fathers and father fig-*
 9 *ures through activities such as—*

10 “(i) *in appropriate cases, including fa-*
 11 *thers in home visits and providing opportu-*
 12 *nities for direct father-child interactions;*
 13 *and*

14 “(ii) *targeting increased male partici-*
 15 *pation in the conduct of the program;*

16 “(9) *the ability of such applicant to carry out*
 17 *the plans described in paragraphs (2), (4), and (5);*

18 “(10) *other factors related to the requirements of*
 19 *this subchapter;*

20 “(11) *the plan of such applicant to meet the*
 21 *needs of limited English proficient children and their*
 22 *families, including procedures to identify such chil-*
 23 *dren, plans to provide trained personnel, and plans*
 24 *to provide services to assist the children in making*

1 *progress toward the acquisition of the English lan-*
 2 *guage;*

3 *“(12) the plan of such applicant to meet the*
 4 *needs of children with disabilities;*

5 *“(13) the plan of such applicant who chooses to*
 6 *assist younger siblings of children who will partici-*
 7 *pate in the Head Start program, to obtain health*
 8 *services from other sources;*

9 *“(14) the plan of such applicant to collaborate*
 10 *with other entities carrying out early childhood edu-*
 11 *cation and child care programs in the community;*

12 *“(15) the plan of such applicant to meet the*
 13 *needs of homeless children and children in foster care,*
 14 *including the transportation needs of such children;*
 15 *and*

16 *“(16) the plan of such applicant to recruit and*
 17 *retain qualified staff.*

18 *“(g) INTERIM BASIS.—If there is not a qualified appli-*
 19 *cant in a community for designation as a Head Start agen-*
 20 *cy, the Secretary shall designate a qualified agency to carry*
 21 *out the Head Start program in the community on an in-*
 22 *terim basis until a qualified applicant from the community*
 23 *is so designated.*

24 *“(h) INVOLVEMENT OF PARENTS AND AREA RESI-*
 25 *DENTS.—The Secretary shall continue the practice of in-*

1 *volving parents and area residents who are affected by pro-*
 2 *grams under this subchapter in the selection of qualified*
 3 *applicants for designation as Head Start agencies.*

4 “(i) *PRIORITY.*—*In selecting from among qualified ap-*
 5 *plicants for designation as a Head Start agency, the Sec-*
 6 *retary shall give priority to applicants that have dem-*
 7 *onstrated capacity in providing effective, comprehensive,*
 8 *and well-coordinated early childhood services to children*
 9 *and their families.”.*

10 **SEC. 8. QUALITY STANDARDS; MONITORING OF HEAD**
 11 **START AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS.**

12 *Section 641A of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9836a)*
 13 *is amended—*

14 *(1) in subsection (a)—*

15 *(A) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking*
 16 *“642(d)” and inserting “642(c)”;*

17 *(B) in paragraph (1)(B)—*

18 *(i) in clause (i), by striking “education*
 19 *performance standards” and inserting “edu-*
 20 *cational performance standards”; and*

21 *(ii) by striking clause (ii) and insert-*
 22 *ing the following:*

23 *“(i) additional educational standards*
 24 *based on the recommendations of the National*
 25 *Academy of Sciences panel described in section*

1 649(h) and other experts in the field, to ensure
 2 that the curriculum involved addresses, and that
 3 the children participating in the program show
 4 appropriate progress toward developing and ap-
 5 plying, the recommended educational outcomes,
 6 after the panel considers the appropriateness of
 7 additional educational standards relating to—

8 “(I) language skills related to listening,
 9 understanding, speaking, and commu-
 10 nicating, including—

11 “(aa) understanding and use of a
 12 diverse vocabulary (including knowing
 13 the names of colors) and knowledge of
 14 how to use oral language to commu-
 15 nicate for various purposes;

16 “(bb) narrative abilities used, for
 17 example, to comprehend, tell, and re-
 18 spond to a story, or to comprehend in-
 19 structions;

20 “(cc) ability to detect and produce
 21 sounds of the language the child speaks
 22 or is learning; and

23 “(dd) clarity of pronunciation
 24 and speaking in syntactically and
 25 grammatically correct sentences;

1 “(II) prereading knowledge and skills,
2 including—

3 “(aa) alphabet knowledge includ-
4 ing knowing the letter names and asso-
5 ciating letters with their shapes and
6 sounds in the language the child speaks
7 or is learning;

8 “(bb) phonological awareness and
9 processes that support reading, for ex-
10 ample, rhyming, recognizing speech
11 sounds and separate syllables in spoken
12 words, and putting speech sounds to-
13 gether to make words;

14 “(cc) knowledge, interest in, and
15 appreciation of books, reading, and
16 writing (either alone or with others),
17 and knowledge that books have parts
18 such as the front, back, and title page;

19 “(dd) early writing, including the
20 ability to write one’s own name and
21 other words and phrases; and

22 “(ee) print awareness and con-
23 cepts, including recognizing different
24 forms of print and understanding the

1 *association between spoken and written*
 2 *words;*

3 “(III) *premathematics knowledge and*
 4 *skills, including—*

5 “(aa) *number recognition;*

6 “(bb) *use of early number concepts*
 7 *and operations, including counting,*
 8 *simple adding and subtracting, and*
 9 *knowledge of quantitative relation-*
 10 *ships, such as part versus whole and*
 11 *comparison of numbers of objects;*

12 “(cc) *use of early space and loca-*
 13 *tion concepts, including recognizing*
 14 *shapes, classification, striation, and*
 15 *understanding directionality; and*

16 “(dd) *early pattern skills and*
 17 *measurement, including recognizing*
 18 *and extending simple patterns and*
 19 *measuring length, weight, and time;*

20 “(IV) *scientific abilities, including—*

21 “(aa) *building awareness about*
 22 *scientific skills and methods, such as*
 23 *gathering, describing, and recording*
 24 *information, making observations, and*

1 *making explanations and predictions;*
 2 *and*

3 “(bb) *expanding scientific knowl-*
 4 *edge of the environment, time, tem-*
 5 *perature, and cause-and-effect relation-*
 6 *ships;*

7 “(V) *general cognitive abilities related*
 8 *to academic achievement and child develop-*
 9 *ment, including—*

10 “(aa) *reasoning, planning, and*
 11 *problem-solving skills;*

12 “(bb) *ability to engage, sustain*
 13 *attention, and persist on challenging*
 14 *tasks;*

15 “(cc) *intellectual curiosity, initia-*
 16 *tive, and task engagement; and*

17 “(dd) *motivation to achieve and*
 18 *master concepts and skills;*

19 “(VI) *social and emotional develop-*
 20 *ment related to early learning and school*
 21 *success, including developing—*

22 “(aa) *the ability to develop social*
 23 *relationships, demonstrate cooperative*
 24 *behaviors, and relate to teachers and*
 25 *peers in positive and respectful ways;*

1 “(bb) an understanding of the
2 consequences of actions, following rules,
3 and appropriately expressing feelings;

4 “(cc) a sense of self, such as self-
5 awareness, independence, and con-
6 fidence;

7 “(dd) the ability to control nega-
8 tive behaviors with teachers and peers
9 that include impulsiveness, aggression,
10 and noncompliance; and

11 “(ee) knowledge of civic society
12 and surrounding communities;

13 “(VII) physical development, including
14 developing—

15 “(aa) fine motor skills, such as
16 strength, manual dexterity, and hand-
17 eye coordination; and

18 “(bb) gross motor skills, such as
19 balance and coordinated movements;
20 and

21 “(VIII) in the case of limited English
22 proficient children, progress toward acquisi-
23 tion of the English language while making
24 meaningful progress in attaining the knowl-

1 *edge, skills, abilities, and development de-*
 2 *scribed in subclauses (I) through (VII);”;*

3 *(C) in paragraph (1)(D), by striking*
 4 *“projects; and” and inserting “projects, includ-*
 5 *ing regulations that require that the facilities*
 6 *used by Head Start agencies (including Early*
 7 *Head Start agencies) and delegate agencies for*
 8 *regularly scheduled center-based and combina-*
 9 *tion program option classroom activities—*

10 *“(i) shall be in compliance with State*
 11 *and local requirements concerning licensing*
 12 *for such facilities; and*

13 *“(ii) shall be accessible by State and*
 14 *local authorities for purposes of monitoring*
 15 *and ensuring compliance; and”;*

16 *(D) in paragraph (2)—*

17 *(i) in subparagraph (B)—*

18 *(I) in clause (i), by striking “the*
 19 *date of enactment of this section” and*
 20 *inserting “the date of enactment of the*
 21 *Head Start Improvements for School*
 22 *Readiness Act”;*

23 *(II) in clause (ii), by striking*
 24 *“the date of enactment of this Act” and*
 25 *inserting “the date of enactment of the*

1 *Head Start Improvements for School*
2 *Readiness Act”;*

3 (III) in clause (iii), by inserting
4 “homeless children, children in foster
5 care,” after “children with disabili-
6 ties,”;

7 (IV) in clause (vi)—

8 (aa) by striking “; and” and
9 inserting a semicolon; and

10 (bb) by inserting “(including
11 children in foster care and the
12 number of homeless children)”
13 after “such children”;

14 (V) in clause (vii), by striking
15 “public schools” and inserting “the
16 schools that the children will be attend-
17 ing”;

18 (VI) by adding at the end the fol-
19 lowing:

20 “(viii) the unique challenges faced by
21 individual programs, including those pro-
22 grams that are seasonal or short term and
23 those programs that serve rural popu-
24 lations;”;

(ii) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by striking “the date of enactment of the Coats Human Services Reauthorization Act of 1998.” and inserting “the date of enactment of the Head Start Improvements for School Readiness Act; and”;

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(D) consult with Indian tribes, American Indian and Alaska Native experts in early childhood development, linguists, and the National Indian Head Start Directors Association on the review and promulgation of program standards and measures (including standards and measures for language acquisition and school readiness).”;

(E) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) EVALUATIONS AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS
FOR DELEGATE AGENCIES.—

“(A) PROCEDURES.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), the Head Start agency shall establish procedures relating to its delegate agencies, including—

1 “(I) procedures for evaluating del-
2 egate agencies;

3 “(II) procedures for defunding
4 delegate agencies; and

5 “(III) procedures for appealing a
6 defunding decision relating to a dele-
7 gate agency.

8 “(ii) *TERMINATION.*—*The Head Start*
9 *agency may not terminate a delegate agen-*
10 *cy’s contract or reduce a delegate agency’s*
11 *service area without showing cause or dem-*
12 *onstrating the cost-effectiveness of such a de-*
13 *cision.*

14 “(B) *EVALUATIONS.*—*Each Head Start*
15 *agency—*

16 “(i) *shall evaluate its delegate agencies*
17 *using the procedures established pursuant to*
18 *this section, including subparagraph (A);*
19 *and*

20 “(ii) *shall inform the delegate agencies*
21 *of the deficiencies identified through the*
22 *evaluation that shall be corrected.*

23 “(C) *REMEDIES TO ENSURE CORRECTIVE*
24 *ACTIONS.*—*In the event that the Head Start*
25 *agency identifies a deficiency for a delegate*

1 *agency through the evaluation, the Head Start*
 2 *agency may—*

3 “(i) *initiate procedures to terminate*
 4 *the designation of the agency unless the*
 5 *agency corrects the deficiency;*

6 “(ii) *conduct monthly monitoring vis-*
 7 *its to such delegate agency until all defi-*
 8 *ciencies are corrected or the Head Start*
 9 *agency decides to defund such delegate agen-*
 10 *cy; and*

11 “(iii) *release funds to such delegate*
 12 *agency only as reimbursements until all de-*
 13 *ficiencies are corrected or the Head Start*
 14 *agency decides to defund such delegate agen-*
 15 *cy.*

16 “(D) *RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in*
 17 *this paragraph shall be construed to impact or*
 18 *obviate the responsibilities of the Secretary with*
 19 *respect to Head Start agencies or delegate agen-*
 20 *cies receiving funding under this subchapter.”;*

21 (2) *in subsection (b)—*

22 (A) *in paragraph (2)—*

23 (i) *by striking the paragraph heading*
 24 *and inserting the following:*

1 “(2) *CHARACTERISTICS AND USE OF MEAS-*
2 *URES.—*”;

3 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
4 “, not later than July 1, 1999; and” and
5 inserting a semicolon;

6 (iii) in subparagraph (C), by striking
7 the period and inserting a semicolon;

8 (iv) by striking the flush matter fol-
9 lowing subparagraph (C); and

10 (v) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(D) *measure characteristics that are*
12 *strongly predictive (as determined on a scientific*
13 *basis) of a child’s school readiness and later per-*
14 *formance in school;*

15 “(E) *be appropriate for the population*
16 *served; and*

17 “(F) *be reviewed not less than every 4*
18 *years, based on advances in the science of early*
19 *childhood development.*

20 *The performance measures shall include the perform-*
21 *ance standards and additional educational standards*
22 *described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subsection*
23 *(a)(1).”;*

24 (B) in paragraph (3)—

1 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “;
2 and” and inserting a semicolon;

3 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
4 the period and inserting “; and”; and

5 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
6 lowing:

7 “(C) to enable Head Start agencies to indi-
8 vidualize programs of instruction to better meet
9 the needs of the child involved.”;

10 (C) by striking paragraph (4) and inserting
11 the following:

12 “(4) *RESULTS-BASED OUTCOME MEASURES.—*
13 *Results-based outcome measures shall be designed for*
14 *the purpose of promoting the knowledge, skills, abili-*
15 *ties, and development, described in subsection*
16 *(a)(1)(B)(ii), of children participating in Head Start*
17 *programs that are strongly predictive (as determined*
18 *on a scientific basis) of a child’s school readiness and*
19 *later performance in school.”; and*

20 (D) by striking paragraph (5) and insert-
21 ing the following:

22 “(5) *ADDITIONAL LOCAL RESULTS-BASED EDU-*
23 *CATIONAL MEASURES AND GOALS.—Head Start agen-*
24 *cies may establish and implement additional local re-*
25 *sults-based educational measures and goals.”;*

1 (3) in subsection (c)—

2 (A) in paragraph (1)—

3 (i) in the matter preceding subpara-
4 graph (A), by inserting “and Head Start
5 centers” after “Head Start programs”;

6 (ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking
7 “such agency” and inserting “Head Start
8 center”;

9 (iii) by striking subparagraph (C) and
10 inserting the following:

11 “(C) Unannounced site inspections of Head
12 Start centers for health and safety reasons, as
13 appropriate.”;

14 (iv) by redesignating subparagraph
15 (D) as subparagraph (E); and

16 (v) by inserting after subparagraph
17 (C) the following:

18 “(D) Notwithstanding subparagraph (C),
19 followup reviews, including—

20 “(i) prompt return visits to agencies,
21 programs, and centers that fail to meet 1 or
22 more of the performance measures developed
23 by the Secretary under subsection (b);

24 “(ii) a review of programs with cita-
25 tions that include findings of deficiencies

1 *not later than 6 months after the date of*
 2 *such citation; and*

3 “(iii) *followup reviews that incorporate*
 4 *a monitoring visit without prior notice of*
 5 *the visit to the agency involved or with such*
 6 *limited prior notice as is necessary to en-*
 7 *sure the participation of parents and key*
 8 *staff members.”; and*

9 *(B) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting*
 10 *the following:*

11 “(2) *CONDUCT OF REVIEWS.—*

12 “(A) *IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall en-*
 13 *sure that reviews described in paragraph (1)—*

14 “(i) *are performed, to the maximum*
 15 *extent practicable, by employees of the De-*
 16 *partment of Health and Human Services*
 17 *who are knowledgeable about Head Start*
 18 *programs;*

19 “(ii) *are conducted by review teams*
 20 *that shall include individuals who are*
 21 *knowledgeable about Head Start and other*
 22 *early childhood education programs and, to*
 23 *the maximum extent practicable, the diverse*
 24 *(including linguistic and cultural) needs of*
 25 *eligible children (including children with*

1 *disabilities, homeless children, and children*
 2 *in foster care) and limited English pro-*
 3 *ficient children and their families, and per-*
 4 *sonnel management, financial account-*
 5 *ability, and systems development and moni-*
 6 *toring;*

7 “(iii) include as part of the reviews of
 8 *the programs, a review and assessment of*
 9 *program effectiveness, as measured in ac-*
 10 *cordance with the results-based performance*
 11 *measures developed by the Secretary pursu-*
 12 *ant to subsection (b) and with the standards*
 13 *established pursuant to subparagraphs (A)*
 14 *and (B) of subsection (a)(1);*

15 “(iv) seek information from the com-
 16 *munities and States where Head Start pro-*
 17 *grams exist about innovative or effective col-*
 18 *laborative efforts, barriers to collaboration,*
 19 *and the efforts of the Head Start agencies to*
 20 *collaborate with the entities carrying out*
 21 *early childhood education and child care*
 22 *programs in the community;*

23 “(v) include as part of the reviews of
 24 *the programs, a review and assessment of*
 25 *whether the programs are in conformity*

1 *with the income eligibility requirements*
2 *under section 645 and regulations promul-*
3 *gated under such section;*

4 “(vi) include as part of the reviews of
5 *the programs, a review and assessment of*
6 *whether programs have adequately ad-*
7 *dressed the population and community*
8 *needs (including needs of populations of*
9 *limited English proficient children and*
10 *children of migrant and seasonal*
11 *farmworking families); and*

12 “(vii) include as part of the reviews of
13 *the programs, data from the results of peri-*
14 *odic child assessments, and a review and*
15 *assessment of child outcomes and perform-*
16 *ance as they relate to State, local, and agen-*
17 *cy-determined school readiness goals.*

18 “(B) *TRAINING; QUALITY AND CONSIST-*
19 *ENCY.—The Secretary, from funds available*
20 *under section 640(a)(2)(C)(ii), shall provide*
21 *periodic training for supervisors and members of*
22 *review teams in such topics as program manage-*
23 *ment and financial audit performance. The Sec-*
24 *retary shall ensure the quality and consistency*
25 *across and within regions of PRISM reviews and*

1 *non-compliance and deficiency determinations*
 2 *by conducting periodic interrater reliability*
 3 *checks.”;*

4 *(4) in subsection (d)(1)—*

5 *(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph*
 6 *(A), by inserting “or fails to address the commu-*
 7 *nity needs and strategic plan identified in sec-*
 8 *tion 640(g)(2)(C),” after “subsection (b),”; and*

9 *(B) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “and*
 10 *identify the technical assistance to be provided*
 11 *consistent with paragraph (3)” after “corrected”;*

12 *(5) in subsection (e), by striking the last sentence*
 13 *and inserting “The information contained in such re-*
 14 *port shall be made available to all parents with chil-*
 15 *dren receiving assistance under this subchapter in an*
 16 *understandable and uniform format, and to the extent*
 17 *practicable, provided in a language that the parents*
 18 *can understand. Such information shall be made*
 19 *widely available through public means such as dis-*
 20 *tribution through public agencies, and, at a min-*
 21 *imum, by posting such information on the Internet*
 22 *immediately upon publication.”; and*

23 *(6) by adding at the end the following:*

24 *“(f) SELF-ASSESSMENTS.—*

1 “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Not less frequently than once
 2 each program year, with the consultation and partici-
 3 pation of policy groups and, as appropriate, other
 4 community members, each agency receiving funds
 5 under this subchapter shall conduct a comprehensive
 6 self-assessment of the effectiveness and progress in
 7 meeting programs goals and objectives and in imple-
 8 menting and complying with Head Start program
 9 performance standards.

10 “(2) *REPORT AND IMPROVEMENT PLANS.*—

11 “(A) *REPORT.*—An agency conducting a
 12 self-assessment shall report the findings of the
 13 self-assessment to the relevant policy council, pol-
 14 icy committee, governing body, and regional of-
 15 fice of the Administration for Children and
 16 Families of the Department of Health and
 17 Human Services. Each self-assessment shall
 18 identify areas of strength and weakness.

19 “(B) *IMPROVEMENT PLAN.*—The agency
 20 shall develop an improvement plan approved by
 21 the governing body of the agency to strengthen
 22 any areas identified in the self-assessment as
 23 weaknesses or in need of improvement.

24 “(3) *ONGOING MONITORING.*—Each Head Start
 25 agency, Early Head Start agency, and delegate agen-

1 *cy shall establish and implement procedures for the*
 2 *ongoing monitoring of their Head Start and Early*
 3 *Head Start programs, to ensure that the operations of*
 4 *the programs work toward meeting program goals*
 5 *and objectives and Head Start performance stand-*
 6 *ards.*

7 “(4) *TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—*
 8 *Funds may be made available, through section*
 9 *648(d)(13), for training and technical assistance to*
 10 *assist agencies in conducting self-assessments.*

11 “(g) *REDUCTION OF GRANTS AND REDISTRIBUTION OF*
 12 *FUNDS IN CASES OF UNDER-ENROLLMENT.—*

13 “(1) *DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:*

14 “(A) *ACTUAL ENROLLMENT.—The term ‘ac-*
 15 *tual enrollment’ means, with respect to the pro-*
 16 *gram of a Head Start agency, the actual number*
 17 *of children enrolled in such program and re-*
 18 *ported by the agency (as required in paragraph*
 19 *(2)) in a given month.*

20 “(B) *BASE GRANT.—The term ‘base grant’*
 21 *means, with respect to a Head Start agency for*
 22 *a fiscal year, that portion of the grant derived—*

23 “(i) *from amounts reserved for use in*
 24 *accordance with section 640(a)(2)(A), for a*
 25 *Head Start agency administering an In-*

1 *dian Head Start program or migrant and*
 2 *seasonal Head Start program;*

3 “(ii) from amounts reserved for pay-
 4 *ments under section 640(a)(2)(B); or*

5 “(iii) from amounts available under
 6 *section 640(a)(2)(D) or allotted among*
 7 *States under section 640(a)(4).*

8 “(C) *FUNDED ENROLLMENT.*—*The term*
 9 *‘funded enrollment’ means, with respect to the*
 10 *program of a Head Start agency in a fiscal*
 11 *year, the number of children that the agency is*
 12 *funded to serve through a grant for the program*
 13 *during such fiscal year, as indicated in the grant*
 14 *agreement.*

15 “(2) *ENROLLMENT REPORTING REQUIREMENT*
 16 *FOR CURRENT FISCAL YEAR.*—*Each entity carrying*
 17 *out a Head Start program shall report on a monthly*
 18 *basis to the Secretary and the relevant Head Start*
 19 *agency—*

20 “(A) *the actual enrollment in such program;*

21 *and*

22 “(B) *if such actual enrollment is less than*
 23 *the funded enrollment, any apparent reason for*
 24 *such enrollment shortfall.*

1 “(3) *SECRETARIAL REVIEW AND PLAN.*—*The Sec-*
2 *retary shall—*

3 “(A) *on a semiannual basis, determine*
4 *which Head Start agencies are operating with*
5 *an actual enrollment that is less than the funded*
6 *enrollment based on not less than 4 consecutive*
7 *months of data;*

8 “(B) *for each such Head Start agency oper-*
9 *ating a program with an actual enrollment that*
10 *is less than 95 percent of its funded enrollment,*
11 *as determined under subparagraph (A), develop,*
12 *in collaboration with such agency, a plan and*
13 *timetable for reducing or eliminating under-en-*
14 *rollment taking into consideration—*

15 “(i) *the quality and extent of the out-*
16 *reach, recruitment, and community needs*
17 *assessment conducted by such agency;*

18 “(ii) *changing demographics, mobility*
19 *of populations, and the identification of*
20 *new underserved low-income populations;*

21 “(iii) *facilities-related issues that may*
22 *impact enrollment;*

23 “(iv) *the ability to provide full-day*
24 *programs, where needed, through Head*
25 *Start funds or through collaboration with*

1 *entities carrying out other preschool or*
2 *child care programs, or programs with*
3 *other funding sources (where available);*

4 *“(v) the availability and use by fami-*
5 *lies of other preschool and child care options*
6 *(including parental care) in the local*
7 *catchment area; and*

8 *“(vi) agency management procedures*
9 *that may impact enrollment; and*

10 *“(C) provide timely and ongoing technical*
11 *assistance to each agency described in subpara-*
12 *graph (B) for the purpose of implementing the*
13 *plan described in such subparagraph.*

14 *“(4) IMPLEMENTATION.—Upon receipt of the*
15 *technical assistance described in paragraph (3)(C), a*
16 *Head Start agency shall immediately implement the*
17 *plan described in paragraph (3)(B).*

18 *“(5) SECRETARIAL ACTION FOR CONTINUED*
19 *UNDER-ENROLLMENT.—If, 1 year after the date of im-*
20 *plementation of the plan described in paragraph*
21 *(3)(B), the Head Start agency continues to operate a*
22 *program at less than full enrollment, the Secretary*
23 *shall, where determined appropriate, continue to pro-*
24 *vide technical assistance to such agency.*

1 “(6) *SECRETARIAL REVIEW AND ADJUSTMENT*
 2 *FOR CHRONIC UNDER-ENROLLMENT.*—

3 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*If, after receiving tech-*
 4 *nical assistance and developing and imple-*
 5 *menting a plan to the extent described in para-*
 6 *graphs (3), (4), and (5) for 9 months, a Head*
 7 *Start agency is still operating a program with*
 8 *an actual enrollment that is less than 95 percent*
 9 *of its funded enrollment, the Secretary may—*

10 “(i) *designate such agency as chron-*
 11 *ically under-enrolled; and*

12 “(ii) *recapture, withhold, or reduce the*
 13 *base grant for the program by a percentage*
 14 *equal to the percentage difference between*
 15 *funded enrollment and actual enrollment for*
 16 *the program for the most recent year in*
 17 *which the agency is determined to be under-*
 18 *enrolled under paragraph (2)(B).*

19 “(B) *WAIVER OR LIMITATION OF REDUC-*
 20 *TIONS.*—*If the Secretary, after the implementa-*
 21 *tion of the plan described in paragraph (3)(B),*
 22 *finds that—*

23 “(i) *the causes of the enrollment short-*
 24 *fall, or a portion of the shortfall, are beyond*
 25 *the agency’s control (such as serving signifi-*

1 cant numbers of migrant or seasonal farm-
 2 worker children, homeless children, children
 3 in foster care, or other highly mobile chil-
 4 dren);

5 “(ii) the shortfall can reasonably be ex-
 6 pected to be temporary; or

7 “(iii) the number of slots allotted to the
 8 agency is small enough that under-enroll-
 9 ment does not constitute a significant short-
 10 fall, the Secretary may, as appropriate,
 11 waive or reduce the percentage recapturing,
 12 withholding, or reduction otherwise required
 13 by subparagraph (A).

14 “(C) *PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS; EFFEC-*
 15 *TIVE DATE.*—The actions taken by the Secretary
 16 under this paragraph with respect to a Head
 17 Start agency shall take effect 1 day after the date
 18 on which—

19 “(i) the time allowed for appeal under
 20 section 646(a) expires without an appeal by
 21 the agency; or

22 “(ii) the action is upheld in an admin-
 23 istrative hearing under section 646.

24 “(7) *REDISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.*—

1 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary shall use*
2 *amounts recovered from a Head Start agency*
3 *through recapturing, withholding, or reduction*
4 *under paragraph (6) in a fiscal year—*

5 “(i) *in the case of a Head Start agency*
6 *administering an Indian Head Start pro-*
7 *gram or a migrant and seasonal Head*
8 *Start program, whose base grant is derived*
9 *from amounts specified in paragraph*
10 *(1)(C)(i), to redirect funds to 1 or more*
11 *agencies that—*

12 “(I) *are administering Head*
13 *Start programs serving the same spe-*
14 *cial population; and*

15 “(II) *demonstrate that the agen-*
16 *cies will use such redirected funds to*
17 *increase enrollment in their Head*
18 *Start programs in such fiscal year; or*

19 “(ii) *in the case of a Head Start agen-*
20 *cy in a State, whose base grant is derived*
21 *from amounts specified in clause (ii) or*
22 *(iii) of paragraph (1)(C), to redirect funds*
23 *to 1 or more agencies that—*

24 “(I) *are administering Head*
25 *Start programs in the same State; and*

1 “(II) make the demonstration de-
2 scribed in clause (i)(II).

3 “(B) SPECIAL RULE.—If there is no agency
4 located in a State that meets the requirements of
5 subclauses (I) and (II) of subparagraph (A)(ii),
6 the Secretary shall use amounts described in sub-
7 paragraph (A) to redirect funds to Head Start
8 agencies located in other States that make the
9 demonstration described in subparagraph
10 (A)(i)(II).

11 “(C) ADJUSTMENT TO FUNDED ENROLL-
12 MENT.—The Secretary shall adjust as necessary
13 the requirements relating to funded enrollment
14 indicated in the grant agreement of a Head
15 Start agency receiving redistributed amounts
16 under this paragraph.

17 “(h) CONTRACT WITH NONPROFIT INTERMEDIARY OR-
18 GANIZATION.—From funds reserved under clause (i) or (ii)
19 of section 640(a)(2)(C) or from whatever other resources the
20 Secretary determines appropriate, in carrying out the pro-
21 visions of this section, the Secretary or a Head Start agency
22 may contract with a nonprofit intermediary organization
23 that—

1 “(1) provides evaluations and technical assist-
 2 ance to improve overall performance management;
 3 and

4 “(2) has an exclusive focus of improving the per-
 5 formance management and the use of technology in
 6 assessing performance and meeting Head Start regu-
 7 lations and can provide on-site, hands-on guidance
 8 with the implementation of the recommendations.”.

9 **SEC. 9. CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD.**

10 *The Head Start Act is amended by inserting after sec-*
 11 *tion 641A (42 U.S.C. 9836a) the following:*

12 **“SEC. 641B. CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE IN EARLY CHILD-**
 13 **HOOD.**

14 “(a) *DEFINITION.*—*In this section, the term ‘center of*
 15 *excellence’ means a Center of Excellence in Early Childhood*
 16 *designated under subsection (b).*

17 “(b) *DESIGNATION AND BONUS GRANTS.*—*The Sec-*
 18 *retary shall, subject to the availability of funds under this*
 19 *subchapter, including under subsection (f), establish a pro-*
 20 *gram under which the Secretary shall—*

21 “(1) designate not more than 200 exemplary
 22 *Head Start agencies (including Early Head Start*
 23 *agencies, Indian Head Start agencies, and migrant*
 24 *and seasonal Head Start agencies) as Centers of Ex-*
 25 *cellence in Early Childhood; and*

1 “(2) *make bonus grants to the centers of excel-*
 2 *lence to carry out the activities described in sub-*
 3 *section (d).*

4 “(c) *APPLICATION AND DESIGNATION.*—

5 “(1) *APPLICATION.*—

6 “(A) *NOMINATION AND SUBMISSION.*—

7 “(i) *IN GENERAL.*—*To be eligible to re-*
 8 *ceive a designation as a center of excellence*
 9 *under subsection (b), except as provided in*
 10 *clause (ii), a Head Start agency in a State*
 11 *shall be nominated by the Governor of the*
 12 *State and shall submit an application to*
 13 *the Secretary at such time, in such manner,*
 14 *and containing such information as the*
 15 *Secretary may require.*

16 “(ii) *INDIAN AND MIGRANT AND SEA-*
 17 *SONAL HEAD START PROGRAMS.*—*In the*
 18 *case of an Indian Head Start agency or a*
 19 *migrant or seasonal Head Start agency, to*
 20 *be eligible to receive a designation as a cen-*
 21 *ter of excellence under subsection (b), such*
 22 *an agency shall be nominated by the head*
 23 *of the appropriate regional office of the De-*
 24 *partment and Health and Human Services*

1 *and shall submit an application to the Sec-*
2 *retary in accordance with clause (i).*

3 “(B) CONTENTS.—*At a minimum, the ap-*
4 *plication shall include—*

5 “(i) *evidence that the Head Start pro-*
6 *gram carried out by the agency has signifi-*
7 *cantly improved the school readiness of, and*
8 *enhanced academic outcomes for, children*
9 *who have participated in the program;*

10 “(ii) *evidence that the program meets*
11 *or exceeds standards and performance meas-*
12 *ures described in subsections (a) and (b) of*
13 *section 641A, as evidenced by successful*
14 *completion of programmatic and moni-*
15 *toring reviews, and has no findings of defi-*
16 *ciencies with respect to the standards and*
17 *measures;*

18 “(iii) *evidence that the program is*
19 *making progress toward meeting the re-*
20 *quirements described in section 648A;*

21 “(iv) *evidence demonstrating the exist-*
22 *ence of a collaborative partnership among*
23 *the Head Start agency, the State (or a*
24 *State agency), and other early care and*

1 *education providers in the local community*
2 *involved;*

3 “(v) *a nomination letter from the Gov-*
4 *ernor, or appropriate regional office, dem-*
5 *onstrating the agency’s ability to carry out*
6 *the coordination, transition, and training*
7 *services of the program to be carried out*
8 *under the bonus grant involved, including*
9 *coordination of activities with State and*
10 *local agencies that provide early childhood*
11 *services to children and families in the com-*
12 *munity served by the agency;*

13 “(vi) *information demonstrating the*
14 *existence of a local council for excellence in*
15 *early childhood, which shall include rep-*
16 *resentatives of all the institutions, agencies,*
17 *and groups involved in the work of the cen-*
18 *ter for, and the local provision of services*
19 *to, eligible children and other at-risk chil-*
20 *dren, and their families; and*

21 “(vii) *a description of how the Center,*
22 *in order to expand accessibility and con-*
23 *tinuity of quality early care and education,*
24 *will coordinate the early care and education*
25 *activities assisted under this section with—*

1 “(I) programs carried out under
2 the Child Care and Development Block
3 Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858 et
4 seq.);

5 “(II) other programs carried out
6 under this subchapter, including the
7 Early Head Start programs carried
8 out under section 645A;

9 “(III)(aa) Early Reading First
10 and Even Start programs carried out
11 under subparts 2 and 3 of part B of
12 title I of the Elementary and Sec-
13 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20
14 U.S.C. 6371 et seq., 6381 et seq.);

15 “(bb) other preschool programs
16 carried out under title I of that Act
17 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.); and

18 “(cc) the Ready-to-Learn Tele-
19 vision program carried out under sub-
20 part 3 of part D of title II of that Act
21 (20 U.S.C. 6775 et seq.);

22 “(IV) programs carried out under
23 part C of the Individuals with Disabil-
24 ities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1431 et
25 seq.);

1 “(V) *State prekindergarten pro-*
2 *grams; and*

3 “(VI) *other early care and edu-*
4 *cation programs.*

5 “(2) *SELECTION.—In selecting agencies to des-*
6 *ignate as centers of excellence under subsection (b),*
7 *the Secretary shall designate not less than 1 from*
8 *each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, an In-*
9 *Indian Head Start program, a migrant and seasonal*
10 *Head Start program, and the Commonwealth of*
11 *Puerto Rico.*

12 “(3) *PRIORITY.—In making bonus grant deter-*
13 *minations under this section, the Secretary shall give*
14 *priority to programs that, through their applications,*
15 *demonstrate that they are of exceptional quality and*
16 *would serve as exemplary models for programs in the*
17 *same geographic region. The Secretary may also con-*
18 *sider the population served by the applicant, such as*
19 *programs that serve large proportions of limited*
20 *English proficient students or other underserved pop-*
21 *ulations, and may make bonus grants to programs*
22 *that do an exceptional job meeting the needs of such*
23 *children.*

24 “(4) *TERM OF DESIGNATION.—*

1 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—Subject to subpara-
 2 graph (B), the Secretary shall designate a Head
 3 Start agency as a center of excellence for a 5-
 4 year term. During the period of that designation,
 5 subject to the availability of appropriations, the
 6 agency shall be eligible to receive a bonus grant
 7 under subsection (b).

8 “(B) *REVOCATION.*—The Secretary may re-
 9 voke an agency’s designation under subsection
 10 (b) if the Secretary determines that the agency is
 11 not demonstrating adequate performance or has
 12 had findings of deficiencies described in para-
 13 graph (1)(B)(ii).

14 “(5) *AMOUNT OF BONUS GRANT.*—The Secretary
 15 shall base the amount of funding provided through a
 16 bonus grant made under subsection (b) to a center of
 17 excellence on the number of children eligible for Head
 18 Start services in the community involved. The Sec-
 19 retary shall, subject to the availability of funding,
 20 make such a bonus grant in an amount of not less
 21 than \$200,000 per year.

22 “(d) *USE OF FUNDS.*—

23 “(1) *ACTIVITIES.*—A center of excellence that re-
 24 ceives a bonus grant under subsection (b) may use the
 25 funds made available through the bonus grant—

1 “(A) to provide Head Start services to addi-
2 tional eligible children;

3 “(B) to better meet the needs of working
4 families in the community served by the center
5 by serving more children in existing Early Head
6 Start programs (existing as of the date the center
7 is designated under this section) or in full-work-
8 ing-day, full calendar year Head Start pro-
9 grams;

10 “(C) to model and disseminate best prac-
11 tices for achieving early academic success, in-
12 cluding achieving school readiness and devel-
13 oping prereading and premathematics skills for
14 at-risk children and achieving the acquisition of
15 the English language for limited English pro-
16 ficient children, and to provide seamless service
17 delivery for eligible children and their families;

18 “(D) to further coordinate early childhood
19 and social services available in the community
20 served by the center for at-risk children (birth
21 through age 8), their families, and pregnant
22 women;

23 “(E) to provide training and cross training
24 for Head Start teachers and staff, child care pro-
25 viders, public and private preschool and elemen-

1 *tary school teachers, and other providers of early*
2 *childhood services, and training and cross train-*
3 *ing to develop agency leaders;*

4 *“(F) to provide effective transitions between*
5 *Head Start programs and elementary school, to*
6 *facilitate ongoing communication between Head*
7 *Start and elementary school teachers concerning*
8 *children receiving Head Start services, and to*
9 *provide training and technical assistance to pro-*
10 *viders who are public elementary school teachers*
11 *and other staff of local educational agencies,*
12 *child care providers, family service providers,*
13 *and other providers of early childhood services,*
14 *to help the providers described in this subpara-*
15 *graph increase their ability to work with low-in-*
16 *come, at-risk children and their families;*

17 *“(G) to develop or maintain partnerships*
18 *with institutions of higher education and non-*
19 *profit organizations, including community-based*
20 *organizations, that recruit, train, place, and*
21 *support college students to serve as mentors and*
22 *reading coaches to preschool children in Head*
23 *Start programs; and*

24 *“(H) to carry out other activities deter-*
25 *mined by the center to improve the overall qual-*

1 *ity of the Head Start program carried out by the*
 2 *agency and the program carried out under the*
 3 *bonus grant involved.*

4 “(2) *INVOLVEMENT OF OTHER HEAD START*
 5 *AGENCIES AND PROVIDERS.*—*A center that receives a*
 6 *bonus grant under subsection (b), in carrying out ac-*
 7 *tivities under this subsection, shall work with the cen-*
 8 *ter’s delegate agencies, several additional Head Start*
 9 *agencies, and other providers of early childhood serv-*
 10 *ices in the community involved, to encourage the*
 11 *agencies and providers described in this sentence to*
 12 *carry out model programs.*

13 “(e) *RESEARCH AND REPORTS.*—

14 “(1) *RESEARCH.*—*The Secretary shall, subject to*
 15 *the availability of funds to carry out this subsection,*
 16 *make a grant to an independent organization to con-*
 17 *duct research on the ability of the centers of excellence*
 18 *to improve the school readiness of children receiving*
 19 *Head Start services, and to positively impact school*
 20 *results in the earliest grades. The organization shall*
 21 *also conduct research to measure the success of the*
 22 *centers of excellence at encouraging the center’s dele-*
 23 *gate agencies, additional Head Start agencies, and*
 24 *other providers of early childhood services in the com-*

9 “(f) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are*
10 *authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2006 and each*
11 *subsequent fiscal year—*

15 “(2) \$2,500,000 to pay for the administrative
16 costs of the Secretary in carrying out this section, in-
17 cluding the cost of a conference of centers of excellence;
18 and

21 *SEC. 10. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF HEAD START AGEN-*
22 *CIES.*

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1 **“SEC. 642. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF HEAD START AGEN-**
2 **CIES.**

3 “(a) *IN GENERAL.*—*In order to be designated as a*
4 *Head Start agency under this subchapter, an agency shall*
5 *have authority under its charter or applicable law to receive*
6 *and administer funds provided under this subchapter, funds*
7 *and contributions from private or local public sources that*
8 *may be used in support of a Head Start program, and*
9 *funds provided under any Federal or State assistance pro-*
10 *gram pursuant to which a public or private nonprofit or*
11 *for-profit agency (as the case may be) organized in accord-*
12 *ance with this subchapter, could act as a grantee, con-*
13 *tractor, or sponsor of projects appropriate for inclusion in*
14 *a Head Start program. Such an agency shall also be em-*
15 *powered to transfer funds so received, and to delegate pow-*
16 *ers to other agencies, subject to the powers of its governing*
17 *board and its overall program responsibilities. The power*
18 *to transfer funds and delegate powers shall include the*
19 *power to make transfers and delegations covering compo-*
20 *nent projects in all cases in which that power will con-*
21 *tribute to efficiency and effectiveness or otherwise further*
22 *program objectives.*

23 “(b) *ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.*—*In order to be des-*
24 *ignated as a Head Start agency under this subchapter, a*
25 *Head Start agency shall also—*

1 “(1) establish a program with all standards set
2 forth in section 641A(a)(1), with particular attention
3 to the standards set forth in subparagraphs (A) and
4 (B) of such section;

5 “(2) demonstrate the capacity to serve eligible
6 children with scientifically based curricula and other
7 interventions and support services that help promote
8 the school readiness of children participating in the
9 program;

10 “(3) establish effective procedures and provide for
11 the regular assessment of Head Start children, includ-
12 ing observational and direct formal assessment, where
13 appropriate;

14 “(4) seek the involvement of parents, area resi-
15 dents, and local business in the design and implemen-
16 tation of the program;

17 “(5) provide for the regular participation of par-
18 ents and area residents in the implementation of the
19 program;

20 “(6) provide technical and other support needed
21 to enable such parents and area residents to secure,
22 on their own behalf, available assistance from public
23 and private sources;

24 “(7) establish effective procedures to facilitate the
25 involvement of parents of participating children in

1 *activities designed to help such parents become full*
2 *partners in the education of their children, and to af-*
3 *ford such parents the opportunity to participate in*
4 *the development and overall conduct of the program*
5 *at the local level;*

6 *“(8) conduct outreach to schools in which Head*
7 *Start children will enroll, local educational agencies,*
8 *the local business community, community-based orga-*
9 *nizations, faith-based organizations, museums, and li-*
10 *braries to generate support and leverage the resources*
11 *of the entire local community in order to improve*
12 *school readiness;*

13 *“(9) offer (directly or through referral to local*
14 *entities, such as entities carrying out Even Start pro-*
15 *grams under subpart 3 of part B of title I of the Ele-*
16 *mentary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20*
17 *U.S.C. 6381 et seq.)), to parents of participating chil-*
18 *dren, family literacy services, and parenting skills*
19 *training;*

20 *“(10) offer to parents of participating children*
21 *substance abuse and other counseling (either directly*
22 *or through referral to local entities), if needed, includ-*
23 *ing information on the effect of drug exposure on in-*
24 *fants and fetal alcohol syndrome;*

1 “(11) at the option of such agency, offer (directly
2 or through referral to local entities), to such par-
3 ents—

4 “(A) training in basic child development
5 (including cognitive development);

6 “(B) assistance in developing literacy and
7 communication skills;

8 “(C) opportunities to share experiences with
9 other parents (including parent mentor relation-
10 ships);

11 “(D) regular in-home visitation; or

12 “(E) any other activity designed to help
13 such parents become full partners in the edu-
14 cation of their children;

15 “(12) provide, with respect to each participating
16 family, a family needs assessment that includes con-
17 sultation with such parents (including foster parents
18 and grandparents, where applicable) about the bene-
19 fits of parent involvement and about the activities de-
20 scribed in this subsection in which such parents may
21 choose to be involved (taking into consideration their
22 specific family needs, work schedules, and other re-
23 sponsibilities);

1 “(13) consider providing services to assist young-
2 er siblings of children participating in its Head Start
3 program, to obtain health services from other sources;

4 “(14) perform community outreach to encourage
5 individuals previously unaffiliated with Head Start
6 programs to participate in its Head Start program
7 as volunteers;

8 “(15)(A) inform custodial parents in single-par-
9 ent families that participate in programs, activities,
10 or services carried out or provided under this sub-
11 chapter about the availability of child support serv-
12 ices for purposes of establishing paternity and acquir-
13 ing child support; and

14 “(B) refer eligible parents to the child support
15 offices of State and local governments;

16 “(16) provide parents of limited English pro-
17 ficient children outreach and information in an un-
18 derstandable and uniform format and, to the extent
19 practicable, in a language that the parents can un-
20 derstand; and

21 “(17) at the option of such agency, partner with
22 an institution of higher education and a nonprofit or-
23 ganization to provide college students with the oppor-
24 tunity to serve as mentors or reading coaches to Head
25 Start participants.

1 “(c) *TRANSITION ACTIVITIES TO FACILITATE CONTIN-*
 2 *UED PROGRESS.*—

3 “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—*Each Head Start agency*
 4 *shall collaborate with the entities listed in this sub-*
 5 *section, to the maximum extent possible, to ensure the*
 6 *successful transition of Head Start children to school,*
 7 *so that such children are able to build upon the devel-*
 8 *opmental and educational gains achieved in Head*
 9 *Start programs in further schooling.*

10 “(2) *COORDINATION.*—

11 “(A) *LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.*—*In*
 12 *communities where both public prekindergarten*
 13 *programs and Head Start programs operate, a*
 14 *Head Start agency shall collaborate and coordi-*
 15 *nate activities with the local educational agency*
 16 *or other public agency responsible for the oper-*
 17 *ation of the prekindergarten program and pro-*
 18 *viders of prekindergarten, including outreach ac-*
 19 *tivities to identify eligible children.*

20 “(B) *ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.*—*Head Start*
 21 *staff shall, with the permission of the parents of*
 22 *children enrolled in Head Start programs, regu-*
 23 *larly communicate with the elementary schools*
 24 *such children will be attending to—*

1 “(i) share information about such chil-
2 dren;

3 “(ii) get advice and support from the
4 teachers in such elementary schools regard-
5 ing teaching strategies and options; and

6 “(iii) ensure a smooth transition to el-
7 ementary school for such children.

8 “(C) *OTHER PROGRAMS.*—The head of each
9 Head Start agency shall coordinate activities
10 and collaborate with the State agency responsible
11 for administering the State program carried out
12 under the Child Care and Development Block
13 Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858 et seq.), other
14 entities carrying out early childhood education
15 and development programs, and the agencies re-
16 sponsible for administering section 106 of the
17 Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42
18 U.S.C. 5106a), parts B and E of title IV of the
19 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 620 et seq. and
20 670 et seq.), programs under subtitle B of title
21 VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance
22 Act (42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.), Even Start pro-
23 grams under subpart 3 of part B of title I of the
24 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
25 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6381 et seq.), and programs

1 *under section 619 and part C of the Individuals*
 2 *with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1419,*
 3 *1431 et seq.), serving the children and families*
 4 *served by the Head Start agency.*

5 “(3) *COLLABORATION.*—*A Head Start agency*
 6 *shall take steps to coordinate activities with the local*
 7 *educational agency serving the community involved*
 8 *and with schools in which children participating in*
 9 *a Head Start program operated by such agency will*
 10 *enroll following such program, including—*

11 “(A) *collaborating on the shared use of*
 12 *transportation and facilities;*

13 “(B) *collaborating to reduce the duplication*
 14 *of services while increasing the program partici-*
 15 *pation of underserved populations of eligible*
 16 *children; and*

17 “(C) *exchanging information on the provi-*
 18 *sion of noneducational services to such children.*

19 “(4) *PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT.*—*In order to pro-*
 20 *mote the continued involvement of the parents of chil-*
 21 *dren that participate in Head Start programs in the*
 22 *education of their children upon transition to school,*
 23 *the Head Start agency shall—*

24 “(A) *provide training to the parents—*

1 “(i) to inform the parents about their
 2 rights and responsibilities concerning the
 3 education of their children; and

4 “(ii) to enable the parents—

5 “(I) to understand and work with
 6 schools in order to communicate with
 7 teachers and other school personnel;

8 “(II) to support the schoolwork of
 9 their children; and

10 “(III) to participate as appro-
 11 priate in decisions relating to the edu-
 12 cation of their children; and

13 “(B) take other actions, as appropriate and
 14 feasible, to support the active involvement of the
 15 parents with schools, school personnel, and
 16 school-related organizations.

17 “(d) ASSESSMENT.—Each Head Start agency shall
 18 adopt, in consultation with experts in child development
 19 and with classroom teachers, an assessment to be used when
 20 hiring or evaluating any classroom teacher in a center-
 21 based Head Start program. Such assessment shall measure
 22 whether such teacher has mastered the functions described
 23 in section 648A(a)(1) and attained a level of literacy appro-
 24 priate to implement Head Start curricula.

1 “(e) *FUNDED ENROLLMENT; WAITING LIST.*—Each
 2 *Head Start agency shall enroll 100 percent of its funded*
 3 *enrollment and maintain an active waiting list at all times*
 4 *with ongoing outreach to the community and activities to*
 5 *identify underserved populations.*

6 “(f) *TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING PLAN.*—
 7 *In order to receive funds under this subchapter, a Head*
 8 *Start agency shall develop an annual technical assistance*
 9 *and training plan. Such plan shall be based on the agency’s*
 10 *self-assessment, the community needs assessment, and the*
 11 *needs of parents to be served by such agency.”.*

12 **SEC. 11. HEAD START TRANSITION.**

13 *Section 642A of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9837a)*
 14 *is amended to read as follows:*

15 **“SEC. 642A. HEAD START TRANSITION AND ALIGNMENT**
 16 **WITH K–12 EDUCATION.**

17 *“Each Head Start agency shall take steps to coordi-*
 18 *nate activities with the local educational agency serving the*
 19 *community involved and with schools in which children*
 20 *participating in a Head Start program operated by such*
 21 *agency will enroll following such program, including—*

22 *“(1) developing and implementing a systematic*
 23 *procedure for transferring, with parental consent,*
 24 *Head Start program records for each participating*
 25 *child to the school in which such child will enroll;*

1 “(2) establishing ongoing channels of commu-
2 nication between Head Start staff and their counter-
3 parts in the schools (including teachers, social work-
4 ers, health staff, and local educational agency liaisons
5 designated under section 722(g)(1)(J)(ii) of the
6 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.
7 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii))) to facilitate coordination of pro-
8 grams;

9 “(3) developing continuity of developmentally
10 appropriate curricula and practice between the Head
11 Start agency and local educational agency to ensure
12 an effective transition and appropriate shared expect-
13 ations for children’s learning and development as the
14 children make the transition to school;

15 “(4) conducting meetings involving parents, kin-
16 dergarten or elementary school teachers, and Head
17 Start teachers to discuss the educational, develop-
18 mental, and other needs of individual children;

19 “(5) organizing and participating in joint train-
20 ing, including transition-related training of school
21 staff and Head Start staff;

22 “(6) developing and implementing a family out-
23 reach and support program, in cooperation with enti-
24 ties carrying out parental involvement efforts under
25 title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education

1 *Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.), and family out-*
2 *reach and support efforts under subtitle B of title VII*
3 *of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42*
4 *U.S.C. 11431 et seq.), taking into consideration the*
5 *language needs of limited English proficient parents;*

6 *“(7) assisting families, administrators, and*
7 *teachers in enhancing educational and developmental*
8 *continuity and continuity of parental involvement in*
9 *activities between Head Start services and elementary*
10 *school classes;*

11 *“(8) linking the services provided in such Head*
12 *Start program with the education services, including*
13 *services relating to language, literacy, and numeracy,*
14 *provided by such local educational agency;*

15 *“(9) helping parents understand the importance*
16 *of parental involvement in a child’s academic success*
17 *while teaching the parents strategies for maintaining*
18 *parental involvement as their child moves from the*
19 *Head Start program to elementary school;*

20 *“(10) developing and implementing a system to*
21 *increase program participation of underserved popu-*
22 *lations of eligible children, including children with*
23 *disabilities, homeless children, children in foster care,*
24 *and limited English proficient children; and*

1 “(11) coordinating activities and collaborating
 2 to ensure that curricula used in the Head Start pro-
 3 gram is aligned with State early learning standards
 4 with regard to cognitive, social, emotional, and phys-
 5 ical competencies that children entering kindergarten
 6 are expected to demonstrate.”.

7 **SEC. 12. SUBMISSION OF PLANS TO GOVERNORS.**

8 Section 643 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9838)
 9 is amended—

10 (1) in the first sentence, by striking “45” and
 11 inserting “30”; and

12 (2) in the last sentence, by inserting “to Indian
 13 and migrant and seasonal Head Start programs in
 14 existence on the date of enactment of the Head Start
 15 Improvements for School Readiness Act, or” after
 16 “other assistance”.

17 **SEC. 13. PARTICIPATION IN HEAD START PROGRAMS.**

18 Section 645(a) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
 19 9840(a)) is amended—

20 (1) in paragraph (1)—

21 (A) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “130
 22 percent of” after “below”; and

23 (B) in the flush matter at the end, by add-
 24 ing at the end the following: “A homeless child

1 *shall be deemed eligible for Head Start services.”;*

2 *and*

3 *(2) by adding at the end the following:*

4 *“(3)(A) In this paragraph:*

5 *“(i) The term ‘dependent’ has the meaning given*
 6 *the term in paragraphs (2)(A) and (4)(A)(i) of sec-*
 7 *tion 401(a) of title 37, United States Code.*

8 *“(ii) The terms ‘member’ and ‘uniformed serv-*
 9 *ices’ have the meanings given the terms in para-*
 10 *graphs (23) and (3), respectively, of section 101 of*
 11 *title 37, United States Code.*

12 *“(B) The following amounts of pay and allowance of*
 13 *a member of the uniformed services shall not be considered*
 14 *to be income for purposes of determining the eligibility of*
 15 *a dependent of such member for programs funded under this*
 16 *subchapter:*

17 *“(i) The amount of any special pay payable*
 18 *under section 310 of title 37, United States Code, re-*
 19 *lating to duty subject to hostile fire or imminent dan-*
 20 *ger.*

21 *“(ii) The amount of basic allowance payable*
 22 *under section 403 of such title, including any such*
 23 *amount that is provided on behalf of the member for*
 24 *housing that is acquired or constructed under the al-*
 25 *ternative authority for the acquisition and improve-*

1 *ment of military housing under subchapter IV of*
 2 *chapter 169 of title 10, United States Code, or any*
 3 *other related provision of law.*

4 *“(4) After demonstrating a need through a community*
 5 *needs assessment, a Head Start agency may apply to the*
 6 *Secretary to convert part-day sessions, particularly con-*
 7 *secutive part-day sessions, into full-day sessions.”.*

8 **SEC. 14. EARLY HEAD START PROGRAMS.**

9 *Section 645A of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9840a)*
 10 *is amended—*

11 *(1) by striking the section heading and inserting*
 12 *the following:*

13 **“SEC. 645A. EARLY HEAD START PROGRAMS.”;**

14 *(2) in subsection (b)—*

15 *(A) in paragraph (4), by striking “provide*
 16 *services to parents to support their role as par-*
 17 *ents” and inserting “provide additional services*
 18 *to parents to support their role as parents (in-*
 19 *cluding parenting skills training and training*
 20 *in basic child development)”;*

21 *(B) by redesignating paragraphs (5), (6),*
 22 *(7), (8), and (9) as paragraphs (6), (7), (10),*
 23 *(11), and (12), respectively;*

24 *(C) by inserting after paragraph (4) the fol-*
 25 *lowing:*

1 “(5) where appropriate and in conjunction with
 2 services provided under this section to the children’s
 3 immediate families (or as approved by the Secretary),
 4 provide home-based services to family child care
 5 homes and kin caregivers caring for infants and tod-
 6 dlers who also participate in Early Head Start pro-
 7 grams, to provide continuity in supporting the chil-
 8 dren’s physical, social, emotional, and intellectual de-
 9 velopment;”;

10 (D) in paragraph (6), as redesignated by
 11 subparagraph (B)—

12 (i) by inserting “(including home-
 13 based services)” after “with services”;

14 (ii) by inserting “and homeless infants
 15 and toddlers” after “disabilities”; and

16 (iii) by inserting “, and family sup-
 17 port services” after “health services”;

18 (E) by inserting after paragraph (7), as re-
 19 designated by subparagraph (B), the following:

20 “(8) develop and implement a systematic proce-
 21 dure for transitioning children and parents from an
 22 Early Head Start program into a Head Start pro-
 23 gram or another local early childhood education pro-
 24 gram;

1 “(9) establish channels of communication be-
 2 tween staff of Early Head Start programs and staff
 3 of Head Start programs or other local early childhood
 4 education programs, to facilitate the coordination of
 5 programs;”; and

6 (F) in paragraph (11), as redesignated by
 7 subparagraph (B)—

8 (i) by striking “and providers” and in-
 9 serting “, providers”; and

10 (ii) by inserting “, and the agencies re-
 11 sponsible for administering section 106 of
 12 the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment
 13 Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a) and parts B and E
 14 of title IV of the Social Security Act (42
 15 U.S.C. 620 et seq. and 670 et seq.)” after
 16 “(20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.)”;

17 (3) in subsection (d)—

18 (A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “, in-
 19 cluding tribal governments and entities oper-
 20 ating migrant and seasonal Head Start pro-
 21 grams” after “subchapter”; and

22 (B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “, in-
 23 cluding community-based organizations” after
 24 “private entities”;

1 (4) in subsection (g)(2)(B), by striking clause
2 (iv) and inserting the following:

3 “(iv) providing professional develop-
4 ment and personnel enhancement activities,
5 including the provision of funds to recipi-
6 ents of grants under subsection (a), relating
7 to—

8 “(I) effective methods of con-
9 ducting parent education, home vis-
10 iting, and promoting quality early
11 childhood development;

12 “(II) recruiting and retaining
13 qualified staff; and

14 “(III) increasing program par-
15 ticipation for underserved populations
16 of eligible children.”;

17 (5) by adding at the end the following:

18 “(h) *STAFF QUALIFICATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT.*—

19 “(1) *CENTER-BASED STAFF.*—The Secretary
20 shall ensure that, not later than September 30, 2010,
21 all teachers providing direct services to Early Head
22 Start children and families in Early Head Start cen-
23 ters have a minimum of a child development associate
24 credential or an associate degree, and have been

1 *trained (or have equivalent course work) in early*
 2 *childhood development.*

3 “(2) *HOME VISITOR STAFF.*—

4 “(A) *STANDARDS.*—*In order to further en-*
 5 *hance the quality of home visiting services pro-*
 6 *vided to families of children participating in*
 7 *home-based, center-based, or combination pro-*
 8 *gram options under this subchapter, the Sec-*
 9 *retary shall establish standards for training,*
 10 *qualifications, and the conduct of home visits for*
 11 *home visitor staff in Early Head Start pro-*
 12 *grams.*

13 “(B) *CONTENTS.*—*The standards for train-*
 14 *ing, qualifications, and the conduct of home vis-*
 15 *its shall include content related to—*

16 “(i) *structured child-focused home vis-*
 17 *iting that promotes parents’ ability to sup-*
 18 *port the child’s cognitive, social, emotional,*
 19 *and physical development;*

20 “(ii) *effective strengths-based parent*
 21 *education, including methods to encourage*
 22 *parents as their child’s first teachers;*

23 “(iii) *early childhood development with*
 24 *respect to children from birth through age 3;*

1 “(iv) *methods to help parents promote*
 2 *emergent literacy in their children from*
 3 *birth through age 3, including use of re-*
 4 *search-based strategies to support the devel-*
 5 *opment of literacy and language skills for*
 6 *children who are limited English proficient;*

7 “(v) *health, vision, hearing, and devel-*
 8 *opmental screenings;*

9 “(vi) *strategies for helping families*
 10 *coping with crisis; and*

11 “(vii) *the relationship of health and*
 12 *well-being of pregnant women to prenatal*
 13 *and early child development.”.*

14 **SEC. 15. APPEALS, NOTICE, AND HEARING AND RECORDS**
 15 **AND AUDITS.**

16 (a) *APPEALS.*—Section 646(a) of the Head Start Act
 17 (42 U.S.C. 9841(a)) is amended by striking paragraphs (3)
 18 and (4) and inserting the following:

19 “(3) *financial assistance under this subchapter*
 20 *may be terminated or reduced, and an application for*
 21 *refunding may be denied, after the recipient has been*
 22 *afforded reasonable notice and opportunity for a full*
 23 *and fair hearing, including—*

1 “(A) a right to file a notice of appeal of a
2 decision within 30 days of notice of the decision
3 from the Secretary; and

4 “(B) access to a full and fair hearing of the
5 appeal, not later than 120 days from receipt by
6 the Secretary of the notice of appeal;

7 “(4) the Secretary shall develop and publish pro-
8 cedures (including mediation procedures) to be used
9 in order to—

10 “(A) resolve in a timely manner conflicts
11 potentially leading to an adverse action be-
12 tween—

13 “(i) recipients of financial assistance
14 under this subchapter; and

15 “(ii) delegate agencies or Head Start
16 Parent Policy Councils;

17 “(B) avoid the need for an administrative
18 hearing on an adverse action; and

19 “(C) prohibit a Head Start agency from ex-
20 pending financial assistance awarded under this
21 subchapter for the purpose of paying legal fees
22 pursuant to an appeal under paragraph (3), ex-
23 cept that such fees shall be reimbursed by the
24 Secretary if the agency prevails in such decision;
25 and

1 “(5) the Secretary may suspend funds to a
2 grantee under this subchapter—

3 “(A) except as provided in subparagraph
4 (B), for not more than 30 days; or

5 “(B) in the case of a grantee under this sub-
6 chapter that has multiple and recurring defi-
7 ciencies for a period of 6 months and has not
8 made substantial and significant progress to-
9 ward meeting the goals of the grantee’s quality
10 improvement plan or eliminating all deficiencies
11 identified by the Secretary, during the hearing of
12 an appeal described in paragraph (3), for any
13 amount of time, including permanently.”.

14 (b) *RECIPIENTS*.—Section 647(a) of the Head Start
15 Act (42 U.S.C. 9842(a)) is amended by striking “Each re-
16 cipient of” and inserting “Each Head Start agency, Head
17 Start center, or Early Head Start center receiving”.

18 (c) *ACCOUNTING*.—Section 647 of the Head Start Act
19 (42 U.S.C. 9842) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
20 lowing:

21 “(c) Each Head Start agency, Head Start center, or
22 Early Head Start center receiving financial assistance
23 under this subchapter shall maintain, and annually submit
24 to the Secretary, a complete accounting of its administra-
25 tive expenses, including expenses for salaries and compensa-

1 *tion funded under this subchapter and provide such addi-*
 2 *tional documentation as the Secretary may require.”.*

3 **SEC. 16. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING.**

4 *Section 648 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9843)*
 5 *is amended—*

6 *(1) in subsection (a)(2), by striking “(b) and*
 7 *(c)” and inserting “(b), (c), and (d)”;*

8 *(2) by redesignating subsections (b) through (e)*
 9 *as subsections (c) through (f), respectively;*

10 *(3) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-*
 11 *lowing:*

12 *“(b) The Secretary shall make available funds set aside*
 13 *in section 640(a)(2)(C)(ii) to support a regional or State*
 14 *system of early childhood education training and technical*
 15 *assistance that improves the capacity of Head Start pro-*
 16 *grams to deliver services in accordance with the standards*
 17 *described in section 641A(a)(1), with particular attention*
 18 *to the standards described in subparagraphs (A) and (B)*
 19 *of such section. The Secretary shall—*

20 *“(1) ensure that agencies with demonstrated ex-*
 21 *pertise in providing high-quality training and tech-*
 22 *nical assistance to improve the delivery of Head Start*
 23 *services, including the State Head Start Associations,*
 24 *State agencies, migrant and seasonal Head Start pro-*
 25 *grams, and other entities providing training and*

1 *technical assistance in early education, for the region*
 2 *or State are included in the planning and coordina-*
 3 *tion of the system; and*

4 *“(2) encourage States to supplement the funds*
 5 *authorized in section 640(a)(2)(C)(ii) with Federal,*
 6 *State, or local funds other than Head Start funds, to*
 7 *expand training and technical assistance activities*
 8 *beyond Head Start agencies to include other providers*
 9 *of other early childhood services within a region or*
 10 *State.”;*

11 *(4) in subsection (d), as so redesignated—*

12 *(A) in paragraph (1)(B)(ii), by striking*
 13 *“educational performance measures” and insert-*
 14 *ing “measures”;*

15 *(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “and for*
 16 *activities described in section 1221(b)(3) of the*
 17 *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of*
 18 *1965 (20 U.S.C. 6371(b)(3))” after “children*
 19 *with disabilities”;*

20 *(C) in paragraph (5), by inserting “, in-*
 21 *cluding assessing the needs of homeless children*
 22 *and their families” after “needs assessment”;*

23 *(D) in paragraph (10), by striking “; and”*
 24 *and inserting a semicolon;*

1 (E) in paragraph (11), by striking the pe-
 2 riod and inserting a semicolon; and

3 (F) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(12) assist Head Start agencies and programs
 5 in increasing the program participation of homeless
 6 children;

7 “(13) provide training and technical assistance
 8 to members of governing bodies to ensure that the
 9 members can fulfill the functions described in section
 10 641(a)(4);

11 “(14) provide training and technical assistance
 12 to Head Start agencies to assist such agencies in con-
 13 ducting self-assessments; and

14 “(15) assist Head Start agencies and Head Start
 15 programs in improving outreach to, and quality of
 16 services available to, limited English proficient chil-
 17 dren and their families, including such services to
 18 help such families learn English, particularly in com-
 19 munities that have experienced a large percentage in-
 20 crease in the population of limited English proficient
 21 individuals, as measured by the Bureau of the Cen-
 22 sus.”;

23 (5) in subsection (e), as so redesignated, by in-
 24 serting “including community-based organizations,”
 25 after “nonprofit entities,”;

1 (6) *in subsection (f), as so redesignated, by in-*
 2 *serting “or providing services to children determined*
 3 *to be abused or neglected, training for personnel pro-*
 4 *viding services to children referred by entities pro-*
 5 *viding child welfare services or receiving child welfare*
 6 *services,” after “English language),”; and*

7 (7) *by adding at the end the following:*

8 “(g) *The Secretary shall provide, either directly or*
 9 *through grants or other arrangements, funds for training*
 10 *of Head Start personnel in addressing the unique needs of*
 11 *migrant and seasonal farmworking families, families with*
 12 *limited English proficiency, and homeless families.*

13 “(h) *Funds used under this section shall be used to*
 14 *provide high quality, sustained, and intensive, training and*
 15 *technical assistance in order to have a positive and lasting*
 16 *impact on classroom instruction. Funds shall be used to*
 17 *carry out activities related to 1 or more of the following:*

18 “(1) *Education and early childhood development.*

19 “(2) *Child health, nutrition, and safety.*

20 “(3) *Family and community partnerships.*

21 “(4) *Other areas that impact the quality or over-*
 22 *all effectiveness of Head Start programs.*

23 “(i) *Funds used under this section for training shall*
 24 *be used for needs identified annually by a grant applicant*
 25 *or delegate agency in its program improvement plan, except*

1 *that funds shall not be used for long-distance travel expenses*
 2 *for training activities—*

3 “(1) *available locally or regionally; or*

4 “(2) *substantially similar to locally or regionally*
 5 *available training activities.*

6 “(j)(1) *To support local efforts to enhance early lan-*
 7 *guage and preliteracy development of children in Head*
 8 *Start programs, and to provide the children with high-qual-*
 9 *ity oral language skills, and environments that are rich in*
 10 *literature, in which to acquire language and preliteracy*
 11 *skills, each Head Start agency, in coordination with the*
 12 *appropriate State office and the relevant State Head Start*
 13 *collaboration office, shall ensure that all of the agency’s*
 14 *Head Start teachers receive ongoing training in language*
 15 *and emergent literacy (referred to in this subsection as ‘lit-*
 16 *eracy training’), including appropriate curricula and as-*
 17 *sessments to improve instruction and learning. Such train-*
 18 *ing shall include training in methods to promote phono-*
 19 *logical and phonemic awareness and vocabulary develop-*
 20 *ment in an age-appropriate and culturally and linguis-*
 21 *tically appropriate manner.*

22 “(2) *The literacy training shall be provided at the local*
 23 *level in order—*

1 “(A) to be provided, to the extent feasible, in the
 2 context of the Head Start programs of the State in-
 3 volved and the children the program serves; and

4 “(B) to be tailored to the early childhood literacy
 5 background and experience of the teachers involved.

6 “(3) The literacy training shall be culturally and lin-
 7 guistically appropriate and support children’s development
 8 in their home language.

9 “(4) The literacy training shall include training in
 10 how to work with parents to enhance positive language and
 11 early literacy development at home.

12 “(5) The literacy training shall include specific meth-
 13 ods to best address the needs of children who are English
 14 language learners or are limited English proficient.

15 “(6) The literacy training shall include specific meth-
 16 ods to best address the needs of children who have speech
 17 and language delays, including problems with articulation,
 18 or have other disabilities.”.

19 **SEC. 17. STAFF QUALIFICATION AND DEVELOPMENT.**

20 Section 648A of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9843a)
 21 is amended—

22 (1) in subsection (a)—

23 (A) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting
 24 the following:

25 “(2) *DEGREE REQUIREMENTS.*—

1 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary shall en-*
2 *sure that—*

3 “(i) *not later than September 30, 2010,*
4 *all Head Start teachers in center-based pro-*
5 *grams have at least—*

6 “(I)(aa) *an associate degree (or*
7 *equivalent coursework) relating to*
8 *early childhood; or*

9 “(bb) *an associate degree in a re-*
10 *lated educational area and, to the ex-*
11 *tent practicable, coursework relating to*
12 *early childhood; and*

13 “(II) *demonstrated teaching com-*
14 *petencies, as determined by the pro-*
15 *gram director involved (including, at a*
16 *minimum, an appropriate level of lit-*
17 *eracy, a demonstrated capacity to be*
18 *highly engaged with children, and a*
19 *demonstrated ability to effectively im-*
20 *plement an early childhood cur-*
21 *riculum); and*

22 “(ii) *not later than September 30,*
23 *2008, all Head Start curriculum specialists*
24 *and education coordinators in center-based*
25 *programs have—*

1 “(I) the capacity to offer assist-
 2 ance to other teachers in the implemen-
 3 tation and adaptation of curricula to
 4 the group and individual needs of a
 5 class; and

6 “(II)(aa) a baccalaureate or ad-
 7 vanced degree relating to early child-
 8 hood; or

9 “(bb) a baccalaureate or advanced
 10 degree and coursework equivalent to a
 11 major relating to early childhood;

12 “(iii) not later than September 30,
 13 2008, all Head Start teaching assistants in
 14 center-based programs have—

15 “(I) at least a child development
 16 associate credential;

17 “(II) enrolled in a program lead-
 18 ing to an associate or baccalaureate de-
 19 gree; or

20 “(III) enrolled in a child develop-
 21 ment associate credential program to
 22 be completed within 2 years; and

23 “(iv) not later than September 30,
 24 2011—

1 “(I) in States that have estab-
 2 lished teacher requirements for State
 3 prekindergarten programs, all Head
 4 Start teachers in center-based pro-
 5 grams—

6 “(aa) if such requirements
 7 are not less than those require-
 8 ments described in subclause (II),
 9 meet such teacher requirements for
 10 State prekindergarten programs;
 11 and

12 “(bb) if such requirements
 13 are less than those requirements
 14 described in subclause (II), meet
 15 the requirements described in sub-
 16 clause (II); and

17 “(II) in States that do not have
 18 an established State prekindergarten
 19 program or in States that do not have
 20 established teacher requirements for
 21 their State prekindergarten programs,
 22 50 percent of all Head Start teachers
 23 in each center-based program have a
 24 baccalaureate degree relating to early
 25 childhood (or a related educational

1 *area or a baccalaureate degree that*
2 *meets State specialized training re-*
3 *quirements for prekindergarten teach-*
4 *ers, such as State licensure, endorse-*
5 *ment, or certification for prekinde-*
6 *rgarten or other early childhood area),*
7 *and demonstrated teaching com-*
8 *petencies, as determined by the pro-*
9 *gram director involved (including, at a*
10 *minimum, an appropriate level of lit-*
11 *eracy, a demonstrated capacity to be*
12 *highly engaged with children, and a*
13 *demonstrated ability to effectively im-*
14 *plement an early childhood cur-*
15 *riculum).*

16 “(B) *TEACHER IN-SERVICE REQUIRE-*
17 *MENT.—Each Head Start teacher shall attend an*
18 *average of not less than 15 clock hours of profes-*
19 *sional development per year. Such professional*
20 *development shall be high quality, sustained, in-*
21 *tensive, and classroom-focused in order to have a*
22 *positive and lasting impact on classroom in-*
23 *struction and the teacher’s performance in the*
24 *classroom, and regularly evaluated for effective-*
25 *ness.*

1 “(C) *PROGRESS.*—

2 “(i) *REPORT.*—*The Secretary shall—*

3 “(I) *require Head Start agencies*
4 *to—*

5 “(aa) *demonstrate con-*
6 *tinuing progress each year to*
7 *reach the result described in sub-*
8 *paragraph (A);*

9 “(bb) *submit to the Secretary*
10 *a report indicating the number*
11 *and percentage of classroom in-*
12 *structors in center-based programs*
13 *with child development associate*
14 *credentials or associate, bacca-*
15 *laureate, or graduate degrees; and*

16 “(II) *compile and submit a sum-*
17 *mary of all program reports described*
18 *in subclause (I)(bb) to the Committee*
19 *on Education and the Workforce of the*
20 *House of Representatives and the Com-*
21 *mittee on Health, Education, Labor,*
22 *and Pensions of the Senate.*

23 “(ii) *DEMONSTRATE PROGRESS.*—*A*
24 *Head Start agency may demonstrate*
25 *progress by partnering with institutions of*

1 *higher education or other programs that re-*
 2 *cruit, train, place, and support college stu-*
 3 *dents to deliver an innovative early learn-*
 4 *ing program to preschool children.*

5 “(D) *SERVICE REQUIREMENTS.*—*The Sec-*
 6 *retary shall establish requirements to ensure*
 7 *that, in order to enable Head Start agencies to*
 8 *comply with the requirements of subparagraph*
 9 *(A), individuals who receive financial assistance*
 10 *under this subchapter to pursue a degree de-*
 11 *scribed in subparagraph (A) shall—*

12 “(i) *teach or work in a Head Start*
 13 *program for a minimum of 3 years after re-*
 14 *ceiving the degree; or*

15 “(ii) *repay the total or a prorated*
 16 *amount of the financial assistance received*
 17 *based on the length of service completed*
 18 *after receiving the degree.”; and*

19 (B) *by striking paragraphs (3) and (4) and*
 20 *inserting the following:*

21 “(3) *WAIVER.*—

22 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*On request, the Sec-*
 23 *retary may grant a waiver of the postsecondary*
 24 *degree requirements of paragraph (2) for 1 or*
 25 *more Head Start agencies, either individually,*

1 *statewide, or throughout a region, that can dem-*
2 *onstrate—*

3 “(i) *that continuing aggressive state-*
4 *wide and national efforts have been unsuc-*
5 *cessful at recruiting an individual to serve*
6 *as a Head Start teacher or curriculum spe-*
7 *cialist or education coordinator who meets*
8 *the requirements of paragraph (2)(A);*

9 “(ii) *limited access to degree programs*
10 *(including quality distance learning pro-*
11 *grams), due to the remote location of the*
12 *program involved; or*

13 “(iii) *that Head Start staff members*
14 *are, as of the day the waiver is granted, en-*
15 *rolled in a program that—*

16 “(I) *grants the required degree;*

17 *and*

18 “(II) *will be completed within 1*

19 *year.*

20 “(B) *LIMITATION.—An agency that receives*
21 *a waiver under subparagraph (A) shall ensure*
22 *that Head Start teachers for the agency, as of the*
23 *day the waiver is granted, who have not met the*
24 *postsecondary degree requirements of paragraph*
25 *(2) but are otherwise highly qualified and com-*

1 *petent shall be directly and appropriately super-*
 2 *vised by a teacher who has met or exceeded the*
 3 *requirements of this subchapter.*

4 *“(C) DURATION.—The Secretary may not*
 5 *grant a waiver under subparagraph (A) for a*
 6 *period that exceeds 1 year.”;*

7 *(2) in subsection (c)—*

8 *(A) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at*
 9 *the end;*

10 *(B) in paragraph (3), by striking the period*
 11 *and inserting “; and”; and*

12 *(C) by adding at the end the following:*

13 *“(4) promote the use of appropriate strategies to*
 14 *meet the needs of special populations (including lim-*
 15 *ited English proficient populations).”;*

16 *(3) in subsection (d)(3)(C) by inserting “, in-*
 17 *cluding a center,” after “any agency”; and*

18 *(4) by adding at the end the following:*

19 *“(f) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS.—Every*
 20 *Head Start agency and center shall create, in consultation*
 21 *with employees of the agency or center (including family*
 22 *service workers), a professional development plan for em-*
 23 *ployees who provide direct services to children, including*
 24 *a plan for classroom teachers, curriculum specialists, and*

1 *education coordinators to meet the requirements set forth*
 2 *in subsection (a).”.*

3 **SEC. 18. TRIBAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES HEAD**
 4 **START PARTNERSHIP.**

5 *The Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.) is amend-*
 6 *ed by inserting after section 648A the following:*

7 **“SEC. 648B. TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY HEAD START**
 8 **PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.**

9 *“(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to pro-*
 10 *mote social competencies and school readiness in Indian*
 11 *children.*

12 *“(b) TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY HEAD START*
 13 *PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.—*

14 *“(1) GRANTS.—The Secretary is authorized to*
 15 *award grants, for periods of not less than 5 years, to*
 16 *Tribal Colleges and Universities to—*

17 *“(A) implement education programs that*
 18 *include education concerning tribal culture and*
 19 *language and increase the number of associate,*
 20 *baccalaureate, and graduate degrees in early*
 21 *childhood education and related fields that are*
 22 *earned by Indian Head Start agency staff mem-*
 23 *bers, parents of children served by such an agen-*
 24 *cy, and members of the tribal community in-*
 25 *volved;*

1 “(B) develop and implement the programs
2 under subparagraph (A) in technology-mediated
3 formats, including providing the programs
4 through such means as distance learning and use
5 of advanced technology, as appropriate; and

6 “(C) provide technology literacy programs
7 for Indian Head Start agency staff members and
8 children and families of children served by such
9 an agency.

10 “(2) STAFFING.—The Secretary shall ensure that
11 the American Indian Programs Branch of the Head
12 Start Bureau of the Department of Health and
13 Human Services shall have staffing sufficient to ad-
14 minister the programs under this section and to pro-
15 vide appropriate technical assistance to Tribal Col-
16 leges and Universities receiving grants under this sec-
17 tion.

18 “(c) APPLICATION.—Each Tribal College or University
19 desiring a grant under this section shall submit an applica-
20 tion to the Secretary, at such time, in such manner, and
21 containing such information as the Secretary may require,
22 including a certification that the Tribal College or Univer-
23 sity has established a partnership with 1 or more Indian
24 Head Start agencies for the purpose of conducting the ac-
25 tivities described in subsection (b).

1 “(d) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—There
 2 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section,
 3 \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2006 and such sums as may be
 4 necessary for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2010.

5 “(e) *DEFINITIONS.*—In this section:

6 “(1) *INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.*—The
 7 term ‘institution of higher education’ has the meaning
 8 given such term in section 101(a) of the Higher Edu-
 9 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).

10 “(2) *TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.*—The
 11 term ‘Tribal College or University’—

12 “(A) has the meaning given such term in
 13 section 316 of the Higher Education Act of 1965
 14 (20 U.S.C. 1059c); and

15 “(B) means an institution determined to be
 16 accredited or a candidate for accreditation by a
 17 nationally recognized accrediting agency or asso-
 18 ciation.”.

19 **SEC. 19. RESEARCH, DEMONSTRATIONS, AND EVALUATION.**

20 Section 649 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9844)
 21 is amended—

22 (1) in subsection (a)(1)(B), by inserting “, chil-
 23 dren determined to be abused or neglected, homeless
 24 children, and children in foster care” after “children
 25 with disabilities”;

1 (2) *in subsection (d)—*

2 (A) *in paragraph (8), by adding “and”*
3 *after the semicolon;*

4 (B) *by striking paragraph (9);*

5 (C) *by redesignating paragraph (10) as*
6 *paragraph (9); and*

7 (D) *by striking the last sentence;*

8 (3) *in subsection (g)—*

9 (A) *in paragraph (1)(A)—*

10 (i) *by striking clause (i); and*

11 (ii) *by redesignating clauses (ii) and*

12 *(iii) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively;*

13 *and*

14 (B) *in paragraph (7)(C)—*

15 (i) *in clause (i), by striking “2003”*

16 *and inserting “2007”; and*

17 (ii) *in clause (ii), by striking “Labor*

18 *and Human Resources” and inserting*

19 *“Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions”;*

20 *and*

21 (4) *by striking subsection (h) and inserting the*

22 *following:*

23 “(h) *NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES STUDY.—*

24 “(1) *IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall enter*

25 *into a contract with the Board on Children, Youth,*

1 *and Families of the National Research Council, the*
 2 *Board on Testing and Assessments, and the Institute*
 3 *of Medicine, of the National Academy of Sciences to*
 4 *establish an independent panel of experts to review*
 5 *and synthesize research and theories in the social, be-*
 6 *havioral, and biological sciences regarding early*
 7 *childhood, and make recommendations with regard to*
 8 *each of the following:*

9 *“(A) Age- and developmentally appropriate*
 10 *Head Start academic requirements and out-*
 11 *comes, including the standards described in sec-*
 12 *tion 641A(a)(1)(B)(ii).*

13 *“(B) Differences in the type, length, mix,*
 14 *and intensity of services that are necessary to*
 15 *ensure that children from challenging family or*
 16 *social backgrounds (including low-income chil-*
 17 *dren, children with disabilities, and limited*
 18 *English proficient children) enter kindergarten*
 19 *ready to succeed.*

20 *“(C) Appropriate assessments of young chil-*
 21 *dren for the purposes of improving instruction,*
 22 *services, and program quality, including—*

23 *“(i) formal and systematic observa-*
 24 *tional assessments in a child’s natural envi-*
 25 *ronment;*

1 “(ii) assessments of children’s develop-
2 ment through parent and provider inter-
3 views;

4 “(iii) appropriate accommodations for
5 children with disabilities and limited
6 English proficient children;

7 “(iv) appropriate assessments for chil-
8 dren with disabilities, limited English pro-
9 ficient children, and children from different
10 cultural backgrounds; and

11 “(v) other assessments used in Head
12 Start programs.

13 “(D) Identification of existing, or rec-
14 ommendations for the development of, scientif-
15 ically based, valid and reliable assessments that
16 are capable of measuring child outcomes in the
17 domains important to school readiness, including
18 language skills, prereading ability,
19 premathematics ability, cognitive ability, sci-
20 entific ability, social and emotional development,
21 and physical development.

22 “(E) Appropriate use and application of
23 valid and reliable assessments for Head Start
24 programs identified in accordance with subpara-
25 graph (D).

1 “(2) COMPOSITION.—

2 “(A) IN GENERAL.—*The panel described in*
 3 *paragraph (1) shall consist of multiple experts in*
 4 *each of the following areas:*

5 “(i) *Child development (including cog-*
 6 *nitive, social, emotional, and physical devel-*
 7 *opment) and child education (including ap-*
 8 *proaches to learning).*

9 “(ii) *Professional development, includ-*
 10 *ing preparation of individuals who teach*
 11 *young children.*

12 “(iii) *Assessment of young children*
 13 *(including children with disabilities and*
 14 *limited English proficient children), includ-*
 15 *ing screening, diagnostic, and classroom-*
 16 *based instructional assessment.*

17 “(B) REPRESENTATIVES.—*The panel de-*
 18 *scribed in paragraph (1) shall be selected and*
 19 *appointed by the National Academy of Sciences,*
 20 *after consultation with the Secretary of Health*
 21 *and Human Services.*

22 “(3) TIMING.—

23 “(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—*Not later than 90*
 24 *days after the date of enactment of the Head*
 25 *Start Improvements for School Readiness Act,*

1 *the Board on Children, Youth, and Families of*
2 *the National Research Council, the Board on*
3 *Testing and Assessments, and the Institute of*
4 *Medicine, of the National Academy of Sciences*
5 *shall establish the panel described in paragraph*
6 *(1), including selecting and appointing the mem-*
7 *bers of the panel. Representatives described in*
8 *paragraph (2) shall be selected and appointed*
9 *after consultation with the Secretary.*

10 “(B) *RECOMMENDATIONS.*—Not later than 1
11 *year after the panel described in paragraph (1)*
12 *is established, the panel shall complete, and sub-*
13 *mit to the Secretary a report containing, the rec-*
14 *ommendations described in paragraph (1). The*
15 *Secretary shall not implement the amendments*
16 *made to section 641A(a)(1)(B)(ii) by the Head*
17 *Start Improvements for School Readiness Act*
18 *until the panel submits the report.*

19 “(4) *APPLICATION OF PANEL REPORT.*—The Sec-
20 *retary shall use the results of the review and rec-*
21 *ommendations described in paragraph (1) to (where*
22 *appropriate) develop, inform, and revise—*

23 “(A) *the educational standards, and the*
24 *performance measures, described in section 641A;*
25 *and*

1 “(B) the assessments utilized in the Head
2 Start programs.

3 “(i) SERVICES TO LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENT
4 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.—

5 “(1) STUDY.—The Secretary shall conduct a
6 study on the status of limited English proficient chil-
7 dren and their families in Head Start or Early Head
8 Start programs.

9 “(2) REPORT.—The Secretary shall prepare and
10 submit to Congress, not later than September 2009, a
11 report containing the results of the study, including
12 information on—

13 “(A) the demographics of limited English
14 proficient children from birth through age 5, in-
15 cluding the number of such children receiving
16 Head Start or Early Head Start services and
17 the geographic distribution of children described
18 in this subparagraph;

19 “(B) the nature of Head Start or Early
20 Head Start services provided to limited English
21 proficient children and their families, including
22 the types, content, duration, intensity, and costs
23 of family services, language assistance, and edu-
24 cational services;

1 “(C) procedures in Head Start programs
2 for the assessment of language needs and the
3 transition of limited English proficient children
4 to kindergarten, including the extent to which
5 Head Start programs meet the requirements of
6 section 642A for limited English proficient chil-
7 dren;

8 “(D) the qualifications and training pro-
9 vided to Head Start and Early Head Start
10 teachers serving limited English proficient chil-
11 dren and their families;

12 “(E) the rate of progress made by limited
13 English proficient children and their families in
14 Head Start programs and Early Head Start
15 programs, including—

16 “(i) the rate of progress of the limited
17 English proficient children toward meeting
18 the additional educational standards de-
19 scribed in section 641A(a)(1)(B)(ii) while
20 enrolled in Head Start programs, measured
21 between 1990 and 2004;

22 “(ii) the correlation between such
23 progress and the type of instruction and
24 educational program provided to the limited
25 English proficient children; and

1 “(iii) the correlation between such
 2 progress and the health and family services
 3 provided by Head Start programs to lim-
 4 ited English proficient children and their
 5 families; and

6 “(F) the extent to which Head Start pro-
 7 grams make use of funds under section 640(a)(3)
 8 to improve the quality of Head Start services
 9 provided to limited English proficient children
 10 and their families.”.

11 **SEC. 20. REPORTS.**

12 Section 650 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9846)
 13 is amended—

14 (1) in subsection (a)—

15 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),
 16 by striking “Labor and Human Resources” and
 17 inserting “Health, Education, Labor, and Pen-
 18 sions”;

19 (B) in paragraph (8), by inserting “home-
 20 lessness, children in foster care,” after “ethnic
 21 background,”; and

22 (C) in the flush matter at the end by strik-
 23 ing “Labor and Human Resources” and insert-
 24 ing “Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions”;
 25 and

1 (2) in subsection (b), by striking “Labor and
2 Human Resources” and inserting “Health, Edu-
3 cation, Labor, and Pensions”.

4 **SEC. 21. COMPARABILITY OF WAGES.**

5 Section 653 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9848)
6 is amended—

7 (1) by striking “The Secretary shall take” and
8 inserting “(a) The Secretary shall take”;

9 (2) in the first sentence of subsection (a), by
10 striking “or (2)” and inserting “(2) in excess of the
11 salary of the Secretary, in the case of an individual
12 compensated with funds awarded under this sub-
13 chapter or the Community Services Block Grant Act
14 (42 U.S.C. 9901 et seq.); or (3)”; and

15 (3) by adding at the end the following:

16 “(b) If in any fiscal year the restriction described in
17 subsection (a)(2) is violated, the Secretary shall withhold
18 from the base grant of the Head Start agency involved (as
19 defined in section 641A(g)(1)) for the next fiscal year, an
20 amount equal to the aggregate amount by which the salary
21 that resulted in the violation exceeded the salary of the Sec-
22 retary.”.

1 **SEC. 22. LIMITATION WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN UNLAW-**
 2 **FUL ACTIVITIES.**

3 *Section 655 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9850)*
 4 *is amended by inserting “or in” after “assigned by”.*

5 **SEC. 23. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.**

6 *Section 656 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9851)*
 7 *is amended—*

8 *(1) by striking all that precedes “chapter 15”*
 9 *and inserting the following:*

10 **“SEC. 656. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.**

11 *“(a) STATE OR LOCAL AGENCY.—For purposes of”;*
 12 *and*

13 *(2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the*
 14 *following:*

15 *“(b) RESTRICTIONS.—*

16 *“(1) IN GENERAL.—A program assisted under*
 17 *this subchapter, and any individual employed by, or*
 18 *assigned to, a program assessed under this subchapter*
 19 *(during the hours in which such individual is work-*
 20 *ing on behalf of such program), shall not engage in—*

21 *“(A) any partisan or nonpartisan political*
 22 *activity or any other political activity associated*
 23 *with a candidate, or contending faction or*
 24 *group, in an election for public or party office;*

25 *“(B) any activity to provide voters or pro-*
 26 *spective voters with transportation to the polls or*

1 *similar assistance in connection with any such*
 2 *election; or*

3 “(C) *any voter registration activity.*

4 “(2) *RULES AND REGULATIONS.—The Secretary,*
 5 *after consultation with the Director of the Office of*
 6 *Personnel Management, may issue rules and regula-*
 7 *tions to provide for the enforcement of this section,*
 8 *which may include provisions for summary suspen-*
 9 *sion of assistance or other action necessary to permit*
 10 *enforcement on an emergency basis.”.*

11 **SEC. 24. PARENTAL CONSENT REQUIREMENT FOR HEALTH**
 12 **SERVICES.**

13 *The Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.) is amend-*
 14 *ed by adding at the end the following new section:*

15 **“SEC. 657A. PARENTAL CONSENT REQUIREMENT FOR NON-**
 16 **EMERGENCY INTRUSIVE PHYSICAL EXAMINA-**
 17 **TIONS.**

18 “(a) *DEFINITION.—The term ‘nonemergency intrusive*
 19 *physical examination’ means, with respect to a child, a*
 20 *physical examination that—*

21 “(1) *is not immediately necessary to protect the*
 22 *health or safety of the child or the health or safety of*
 23 *another individual; and*

24 “(2) *requires incision or is otherwise invasive, or*
 25 *involves exposure of private body parts.*

1 “(b) *REQUIREMENT.*—A *Head Start* agency shall ob-
2 tain written parental consent before administration of, or
3 referral for, any health care service provided or arranged
4 to be provided, including any nonemergency intrusive phys-
5 ical examination of a child in connection with participa-
6 tion in a program under this subchapter.

7 “(c) *RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.*—Nothing in this sec-
8 tion shall be construed to prohibit agencies from using es-
9 tablished methods, for handling cases of suspected or known
10 child abuse and neglect, that are in compliance with appli-
11 cable Federal, State, or tribal law.”.

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[Report No. 109-131]

A BILL

To reauthorize the Head Start Act, and for other purposes.

AUGUST 31, 2005

Reported with an amendment